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REPORT

OF THE OPERATIONS OF THE

BRITISH NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR AID TO THE SICK AND WOUNDED IN WAR

DURING THE

SERVIAN WAR AGAINST TURKEY, 1876,

TOGETHER WITH A

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE

AND

A MAP, REPORTS, AND CORRESPONDENCE.



LONDON:

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NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR AID TO THE SICK AND WOUNDED IN WAR.

TURCO-SERVIAN RELIEF.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

THE conclusion of peace between Turkey and Servia is a subject of congratulation among all classes in England, whose interest in the events of the struggle has been second only to that of the parties who have been themselves actually engaged in the war.

Statements have already been made to the public, first at a meeting held at Willis's Rooms, at the outset of our operations, and subsequently in a Report published in October, when the war was at its height, setting forth the considerations which determined the National Society to lend aid in a war in which one of the parties engaged was not recognised as a belligerent.

The public meeting in London on 15th August, 1876.

The verdict of public opinion has sanctioned the resolution which was arrived at by the Council, to devote a fixed sum in aid of the Sick and Wounded Soldiers of the Turkish and Servian Armies. The principal consideration which led to the adoption of this course, was the fact that the public, who in 1870 and 1871 raised the fund, showed unmistakeable signs of a desire to see a portion of the remaining surplus devoted during the present Turco-Servian war to purposes similar to those on which their contributions were expended during the Franco-German war; it being borne in mind that the object of the subscribers to the large fund then raised, was to give aid to disabled foreign soldiers in a war in which England was strictly neutral.

Action of the Council of the National Aid Society.

The applications which were made to the Society through Her Majesty's Minister for Foreign Affairs, both by the Turkish and the Servian Governments, for help for their wounded soldiers, together with the feeling existing among people at home, and displayed at the meeting at Willis's Rooms, in favour of neutral and impartial assistance, could not be disregarded.

Applications to the Society by the Turkish and Servian Governments, for aid to their wounded.

The Council, therefore, determined to open a credit of £20,000, as a special Turco-Servian Relief Fund.

It has been objected to the course pursued by our Society that, Servia and Montenegro having rushed into war without making any provision for medical service and thrown the whole care of their sick and wounded upon foreigners, the English National Society ought, therefore, to have withheld its helping hand during the struggle, and have left them to suffer the penalties which naturally follow on such barbarous proceedings.

The charges against the National Aid Society, and the replies to them.

The conduct of a Government which thus neglects its duty and makes no provision for the necessities of civilized warfare, is deserving of the utmost censure. The parties engaged in the recent war may be open to such a

charge ; but it is rather too much to say that they deliberately relied beforehand on foreign intervention for the care of their sick and wounded. At the outset, no doubt, they neglected all preparations and were wholly unprovided with hospital organisation or requirements ; but as the war went on they did their best to establish a proper organisation, which, however, fell far short of what was required.

Beneficial results of intervention by neutrals.

Experience has shown that the impulse given by the influence of neutral intervention has caused much greater exertions to be made by the belligerents themselves to provide properly for their wounded, than was the case before such interference took place.

The cause of humanity promoted by criticism of foreigners.

It has been clearly seen in the Turco-Servian war, that belligerents do not venture to altogether disregard public opinion, and that however much the military authorities may dislike the watchful scrutiny of foreign surgeons, foreign officers, and foreign newspaper writers, yet the cause of humanity has been vastly promoted by the presence of men who thus check what is bad and encourage what is good,—who, uninfluenced by fear, favour or affection, are willing to tell the truth, and throw light upon acts which, if kept in the dark, might equal those of barbarous ages.

The influence of such men has done more to promote practical humanity in war than any conference or convention.

Again, it has been objected that, in consequence of the inactivity of the National Society during a period of comparative peace, it has become the mere “jealous guardian of the balance of a fund collected six years ago.” This charge would surely have been made with more reason had the Society remained inactive during the last year.

British National Society different from Societies of other nations.

The circumstances connected with the origin of the fund must not be forgotten, and if the *modus operandi* of the British Society has been somewhat different from that of the Societies of other nations, who have for their one paramount object the succour of the wounded of their own armies, it is because the origin and intention of our fund was also different. The British Society is not forgetful of the resolution passed at its first public meeting, viz., “That the aid and assistance be given in the first instance to our own army should we be unfortunately engaged in war.” But the fund, the remaining balance of which is now in our hands, was raised at a time when there was no expectation of England being involved in war, and the intention of the subscribers was to relieve the sufferings of the disabled French and German soldiers, the details of whose sad condition were daily brought before them by the press.

Immediate object of original subscribers.

Future of National Societies for aiding wounded in war.

The time may possibly be approaching when national societies may claim to have accomplished as much as is possible for them to do. By precept and by example they have undoubtedly raised the standard of treatment of those who, within our own memory, have been regarded but as the encumbrances of a battle field. The agents of our Society may occasionally have met with jealousies, and even hindrances, from military, and from medical, authorities, but they have also met with signal marks of gratitude. Many men who were soldiers, and are now probably humble peasants in France and Germany, or in Turkey and Servia, remember that they owe the preservation of their lives to English surgeons. Nor are we without grateful acknowledgments from both military and medical authorities, and from Governments.

If there be any reasonable ground to anticipate that, in future great wars, the personal aid of neutrals is more likely to be declined than to be utilised, then the course to be adopted by the English National Society will be even more plainly marked out than before. It will continue to be the "jealous guardian of a surplus fund," to be reserved for use in case of England being engaged in war. In what way can the Society better fulfil its duty than by thus acting?

Duty of the Trustees of Surplus Fund.

It has again been suggested that we should become a centre for aid in all national disasters—with railway waggons ready to dispatch to the scene of every accident, and ambulances at hand to bring succour to the pit's mouth in colliery disasters, seeking out in villages, and bringing into town hospitals, the victims of accidents far away from surgical aid. Such a scheme may be noble in its aim, but its projects are very wide of those originally contemplated by our Society, which, having undertaken one duty, cannot be blamed if it declines another of a totally different character, and requiring very different organisation.

Scheme advocated in "*Blackwood*," not that originally contemplated by the Society.

Another complaint against the inactivity of the Society during a period of peace is, that it is not occupied in preparing the material which would be needed in case of war. A similar charge is made against our War Department, warning the public that there is no great nation whose military medical arrangements are less prepared to meet the emergencies of war than ours; and that though 150 Hospital and Surgery Waggons are laid down as the requisite equipment of a single Army Corps, yet the pattern Surgery Wagon at Woolwich is the only one in actual existence. It is no part of the duty of the Society to defend the War Department—but it may be presumed that the War Department has no more wish than our Society has to be encumbered by vast stores of Hospital and Surgical Waggons, when it is well known that in a very few weeks any number of these carriages can be made to order by private firms, even supposing they could not be constructed at Woolwich.

No part of the duty of the Society to encumber itself with vast stores of waggons and materials.

No amount of foresight can predict the precise manner in which an "Aid Society" may give the most efficient help to a government suddenly called upon to place an army in the field. The character of the help given must depend on the character of the duties which the army is called upon to perform. Even in the matter of ambulance waggons, those which would be suitable for a campaign in one country would be useless in another. Again, a well prepared scheme of aid in one instance would be out of place and unsuited in another.

A fixed scheme of aid would be useless.

Some persons have even gone so far as to suggest that an "Aid Society" should stop short of nothing less than a complete organisation on which the nation would have a right to rely for the care of her wounded in time of war: a society which would share with the War Office the great responsibility which now rests entirely upon it. This, however, is not, in our opinion, a correct view of the position of our Society, or of the duties incumbent upon it. We have ever disclaimed becoming an organisation upon which the Government might for a moment suppose they could throw the burden of their wounded in time of war. The Government make no such claim, and if, under the pressure of circumstances, it should at any time ask, or accept our aid, it will certainly not be given with any view of diminishing in the smallest degree the responsibility of Government

The Society never intended to relieve the Government of any responsibility.

At the battle of the Alma the English Army was saved from a surgical collapse by borrowing surgeons from the Fleet, and in every battle that we have heard of, the lack of surgical assistance on the field has been most severely felt. No Government can be expected to maintain in time of peace a staff of Army Surgeons sufficient to meet the emergencies arising from war. Civilian surgeons must, therefore, be called in, and probably some among the most eminent would be found willing to lend their assistance. Indeed, they have proved their willingness under circumstances which are still fresh in the memory of the Council.

We have been induced to make those preliminary observations with the view of preventing any possible misconception on the part of our subscribers or of the public as to the duties for which the Society was constituted, and of the limits within which we conceive that the application of the surplus still remaining in our hands ought to be confined. We now proceed to render an account of the operations of the Society during the recent conflicts in Turkey and Servia.

Turco-Servian
Relief.

The operations of the Society in Turkey and in Servia have, as already stated, been set forth in the reports which have from time to time been published during the war, which has now happily ceased.

Expenditure.

The total of the expenditure in aid rendered to both parties will be found slightly to exceed half the amount which was contemplated when the National Society made the grant of £20,000 for Turco-Servian Relief. At the time, however, £10,000, it was thought, would be sufficient, but a sum of £20,000 was actually voted as an ample provision for any possible emergency; and this was to some extent increased by a sum of somewhat over £800, which was contributed by the Eastern War Committee when they amalgamated with the Turco-Servian branch of our Society, and by subscriptions to our fund amounting to about £1,000. The result has shown the smaller amount to be nearly sufficient to meet all requirements made on the agents abroad and on the Committee at home. A sum amounting to about £11,000 will, therefore, be handed back by the Turco-Servian Relief Committee to the National Society for reinvestment in the names of the trustees.

Reports are annexed from the agents of the Society abroad. They commence with an account by Colonel Loyd-Lindsay and Mr. Mac Cormac of the operations of the Society in Servia and Turkey. Dr. Laseron and Dr. Charles both report upon the hospital at Belgrade. Mr. Barrington Kennett gives a report of the transport-service which he so ably managed between Belgrade and the towns lying on the frontier between Turkey and Servia.

Mr. A. K. Loyd and Captain Carter furnish an account of their operations in aid of the wounded upon the Montenegrin frontier of Albania, while Dr. Leslie, the chief agent of the Society in Turkey, gives a report of his operations at the head-quarters of the Turkish Army at Alexinatz, and at the hospital at Nisch, in which he was assisted by Messrs. Pitts, White and Barker, who were afterwards joined by Messrs. Newby, Bothamley, Gamble, and Maile.

Peculiar
nature of
operations.

The nature of the Society's operations during the Turco-Servian contest has been, owing to the different circumstances, in many respects unlike those during the Franco-German war, which, from the scene of warfare being close at hand, and both combatants being well acquainted with the meaning of the

Geneva Convention, afforded no precedent as to the best way of aiding the wounded in a war carried on in a country far distant and ill provided with means of transport, and between races not highly civilised according to the notions of Western Europe. The inadequacy of Servian and Turkish medical service necessitated the sending of surgeons from England. Some hospital necessities, too, such as waterproof sheeting, drainage-tubing, surgical instruments, and some medical appliances were only procurable in England; but the heavier stores and ambulance waggons were obtained at Vienna, the cost of carriage being thus lessened.

In selecting surgeons for employment in the East, the Council was anxious to secure a body of men who would recognise the necessity of acting under discipline. This consideration induced Mr. Mac Cormac, who acted for the Society, to select the Medical Staff chiefly from St. Thomas's Hospital, discipline and "*esprit de corps*" being more readily maintained in an Ambulance Staff composed of men from the same medical school. Mr. Mac Cormac himself visited both Servia and Turkey as chief Medical Officer of the Society, and the advantage of the system adopted was manifest in the harmonious manner in which the Medical Staff worked under his superintendence.

System of
selecting
Medical
Agents.

The Results of the operations of the Society may be summarised as follows :
IN SERVIA—

Summary of
works of
Turco-Servian
Relief.

1. The establishment of advanced Tent Hospitals (War Office Field Hospital Marquees) near the scene of fighting, managed by English surgeons and dressers.
2. The establishment of a Waggon Transport Service to convey the wounded, when fit to be moved from this field hospital, to the reserve hospital at Belgrade, with War Office Hospital Marquees at the intermediate stations.
3. The use of a Floating Ambulance or Hospital Barge as supplementary to the waggon ambulances.
4. The establishment of a Reserve Hospital at Belgrade, containing 150 beds, and well equipped in every respect, under Dr. Laseron, as director, with a sufficient staff of surgeons, assistant-surgeons, dressers, and six trained nurses of the Deaconesses' Institution at Tottenham.

IN TURKEY—

5. The establishment of advanced Tent Hospitals (War Office Field Hospital Tents) at the Headquarters of the Turkish army before Alexinatz.
6. The establishment of an Hospital at Nisch, for 150 beds, under the management of Dr. Armand Leslie and a staff of English surgeons and dressers.
7. The establishment and subsidising of a Temporary Hospital of 100 beds at Sofia, under Turkish authority, but managed by English surgeons in the Turkish service.
8. Grants in aid to Hospitals at Widdin, Sienitza, and Adrianople.
9. The establishment and maintenance of a Temporary Hospital of 60 beds at Scutari, in Albania, under Turkish authority, and managed by Turkish surgeons, with Mr. Kirby Green, H.M. Consul, as visitor.

GENERALLY—

10. The employment of English Surgeons (detached from the reserve hospitals) on the field, on either side, during numerous engagements.

Termination
of work in
Servia, and in
Turkey.

The work of the Society in Servia was terminated on 30th November, and in Turkey on 31st December, the agents being free to remain there if so inclined, under other auspices. In each case a month's notice was given by the Committee of the intention to close the operations. The Belgrade Hospital was handed over as it stood, on 1st December, by Mr. White, H.M. Consul-General, acting on behalf of the National Society, to the Servian military authorities. The Nisch Hospital was similarly handed over by Dr. Armand Leslie, the Society's chief agent in Turkey, on 1st January, 1877, to the Turkish authorities. In each case a good supply of medical stores and hospital clothing was sent from London as a parting gift.

Thanks for
Assistance.

The best thanks of the Committee are due to Mr. Mac Cormac, Mr. MacKellar, Dr. Charles, Dr. Leslie, and the staff of medical men who have so ably served at the seat of war, to Dr. Laseyron, and to those ladies of the Deaconesses' Institution and others who, under his direction, added so much to the comfort of the patients at Belgrade, to Mr. Barrington Kennett for his energetic care for the transport of the wounded from the front to Belgrade; and to Mr. Wagstaffe, who, during the absence at the seat of war of Mr. Mac Cormac, undertook the selection of surgeons and dressers to be sent out as required.

From the Foreign Office in London, and its representatives abroad, the Committee have received valuable aid. Mr. White, Her Majesty's Consul-General at Belgrade, although under great pressure of public business, devoted himself to the success of our work in Servia. From the Embassy at Constantinople, and specially by the Honourable Lady Elliot, similar co-operation has been warmly given as regards the work in Turkey; whilst Mr. Kirby Green, Her Majesty's representative at Scutari, in Albania, has looked after the welfare of the hospital started by Mr. Loyd and Captain Carter at that place. As soon as the Foreign Office became aware of the intention of the Society to afford surgical aid to the combatants, instructions were sent to the Government Agents abroad to afford all possible assistance; and Her Majesty's Ambassador at Vienna has furthered the work by hastening the transport of goods sent by that route. Moreover, the Customs Authorities in Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, and Turkey received instructions from their respective Governments, on the application of our Foreign Office, for the free admission of packages for Turkey and Servia bearing the label of the National Society.

Baron Dr. Mundy gave to the Society's Agents in Servia the most valuable personal assistance and advice, founded upon his long experience and interest in all matters relating to the care of wounded soldiers.

The thanks of the Committee are due to the South-Eastern Railway Company, which, as in 1870-71, gave unusual facilities for the rapid expedition to the Continent of heavy parcels of stores covered by the Society's label.

Thanks from
the Porte.

The Committee have received from the Porte through the Foreign Office, the expression of the thanks of the Ottoman Government for the aid given to sick and wounded Turkish soldiers.

Appendices.

The statements of receipts and expenditure, and of various stores purchased for the use of the wounded, the reports made from time to time by various agents, and others, of the Society's work in different localities, and a Map shewing the ground over which the operations have been spread, will be found in the Appendices.

NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR AID TO THE SICK
AND WOUNDED IN WAR.



TURCO-SERVIAN RELIEF COMMITTEE.

CHAIRMAN LIEUT.-COL. LOYD-LINDSAY, V.C., M.P.
DEPUTY CHAIRMAN SIR EDMUND LECHMERE, BART., M.P.
CHAIRMAN OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ... } CAPTAIN DOUGLAS GALTON, C.B.

THE EARL OF SHAFTESBURY, K.G.
*THE LORD OVERSTONE.
*LIEUT.-COLONEL HON. C. H. LINDSAY.
SIR HARRY VERNEY, BART.
SIR N. M. DE ROTHSCHILD, BART., M.P.
SIR EDMUND LECHMERE, BART., M.P.
*LIEUT.-COLONEL LOYD-LINDSAY, V.C., M.P.
LIEUT.-GENERAL SIR JOHN ST. GEORGE, K.C.B.
MAJOR-GENERAL SIR HENRY DAUBENEY, K.C.B.
COLONEL W. K. LOYD.
*CAPTAIN DOUGLAS GALTON, C.B.
SURGEON-GENERAL LONGMORE, C.B.
*MAJOR C. J. BURGESS.
*W. MAC CORMAC, Esq., F.R.C.S.
A. KIRKMAN LOYD, Esq.
ANDREW JOHNSTON, Esq.
CAPTAIN E. K. FORTESCUE.

SECRETARY, *MAJOR C. J. BURGESS.
ASSISTANT SECRETARY, H. J. KER PORTER, Esq., M.R.I.A.

MEDICAL SUB-COMMITTEE.

*W. MAC CORMAC, Esq., F.R.C.S., 13, HARLEY STREET, W.
*W. W. WAGSTAFFE, Esq., F.R.C.S., ST. THOMAS'S HOSPITAL.

* Served as the Executive Committee.

NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR AID TO

TURCO-SERVIAN

Dr.

FROM AUGUST 16, 1876,

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To AMOUNT placed at the disposal of the Turco-Servian Relief Committee by the National Society for Aid to the Sick and Wounded in War	20,000	0	0			
„ SUBSCRIPTIONS from various contributors	1,006	9	3			
„ AMOUNT handed over to the Turco-Servian Relief Committee by the Eastern War Sick and Wounded Relief Committee	830	3	0			
				21,836	12	3

„ BALANCE of Refund Account ...					55	0	0
					£21,891	12	3

THE SICK AND WOUNDED IN WAR.

RELIEF FUND.

TO FEBRUARY 16, 1877.

Cr.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
By TRANSPORT SERVICE, including purchase and hire of horses, vehicles, and forage, stable expenses, repairs, packing, and carriage of stores, removal of Sick and Wounded, &c.	1,529	11	6			
„ FOOD purchased in London for Sick and Wounded, including medical comforts, viz., wines, spirits, &c.	148	14	0			
„ MEDICAL STORES, including food not purchased in England, medicines, hospital furniture and fittings, disinfectants, and all surgical appliances except instruments	2,893	12	9			
„ SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS	773	16	1			
„ CLOTHING AND BEDDING	1,118	14	4			
„ WAR OFFICE FIELD HOSPITAL MARQUEES AND TENTS, for hospitals and stores	226	0	2			
„ STAFF ALLOWANCE and expenses abroad, including pay and travelling expenses of Surgeons, Dressers, Lay Agents, and other persons in the employment	3,330	8	8			
„ GRANTS to local hospitals and other agencies, per Colonel Loyd-Lindsay, M.P., Hon. Lady Elliot, Consul-General White, Consul Kirby Green, Mr. Black, and others	427	11	1			
„ WAGES of Clerk and Commissionaire, London	48	8	0			
„ LONDON OFFICE EXPENSES, including printing, stationery, postage, advertisements, messages, and telegrams	256	6	5			
„ MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES, including all sundry and petty expenses not classed under the preceding divisions	24	14	11			
				10,777	17	11
„ BALANCE at Bankers				11,113	14	4
				<u>£21,891</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>3</u>

R. LOYD-LINDSAY,
Chairman of the Committee.

LIST OF AGENTS EMPLOYED AT THE SEAT OF WAR BY THE
TURCO-SERVIAN RELIEF COMMITTEE.

NAME.	Capacity in which employed.
Loyd-Lindsay, V.C., M.P., Lieut.-Col. R.	Chief Commissioner at Seat of War.
Mac Cormac, W.	Surgeon-in-Chief.
Leslie, A., M.D.	Chief Agent in Turkey.
Carter, Capt. Colebrooke	Assistant to Col. Loyd-Lindsay
Loyd, A. K.	Assistant to Col. Loyd-Lindsay
Kennett, V. Barrington	Director of Transport Service.
Laseron, M., M.D.	Director of Belgrade Hospital.
Atwood, F. L.	Surgeon.
Brock, C. D.	Surgeon.
Barker, F. R.	Dresser.
Bothamley, R. B.	Dresser.
Boyd, A. L.	Dresser.
Charles, T. C., M.D.	Surgeon.
Galton, J. C.	Surgeon.
Gimlette, G. H. D.	Dresser.
Gamble, E. G. L.	Dresser.
Hume, F. N.	Surgeon.
Hare, Evan	Surgeon.
Little, E. M.	Dresser.
Maile, C. E. D.	Dresser.
MacKellar, A. O.	Surgeon.
Newby, C. H.	Surgeon.
Pitts, B.	Surgeon.
Sandwith, F. M.	Surgeon.
Schofield, R. H. A.	Dresser.
White, C. H.	Surgeon.
Wattie, C. L.	Surgeon.
Christian, Sister	Nurse.
Elizabeth, Sister	Nurse.
Frances, Sister	Nurse.
Lizzie, Sister	Nurse.
Persse, Miss	Nurse.
Rubina, Sister	Nurse.
Sarah, Sister	Nurse.
Whittle, M.	Attendant.

STORES

PURCHASED BY COMMITTEE, OR GIVEN TO COMMITTEE
BY PUBLIC.

FIELD REQUIREMENTS.

Purchased by the Committee.

Union Jacks	6
India Rubber Rings	36
Ambulance Waggon (Mundy's)	2
Ambulance Omnibus	1
Light Carriage	1
Horses	7
Field Hospital Marquees	6
Tents	2
Hospital Barge	1

DRUGS AND MEDICINES.

Purchased by the Committee.

Half-pint Bottles of Chloroform	36
Pint	12
Four oz.	66
One oz. Quinine	18
Half-oz.	82
Half-oz. Solution of Morphia	104
Half-oz. Acetate	32
Half-pound Carbolic Acid	98
Bottles of Carbolyzed Catgut Ligatures	12
Insecticide	58 bottles
Blutstillende	18 "

*Contributed by the Public (from the Eastern War,
&c., Committee, per Lady Lechmere).*

Carbolic Acid	2 cases
Carbolized Tow	2 "
Californian Borax	1 box

Given by H. B. Condy, Esq.

Condy's Fluid	100 gallons
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BEDDING.

Purchased by the Committee.

Towels	600
Blankets	200 pairs

WATERPROOFING.

Purchased by the Committee.

Waterproof Sheeting	228 yards
Air Cushions	49
Air Pillows	10
Water Cushions	6
Gutta Percha (for leg and arm splints)	13 pieces and 10 lbs.
Macintosh Sheet	5 feet

CLOTHING.

Purchased by the Committee.

Stockings	599 pairs
Hospital Dressing Gowns	465
Jerseys	600
Trowsers	660
Socks	1500
Shetland Shirts	780
Shetland Half-hose	1200

*Contributed by the Public (from the Eastern War,
&c., Committee, per Lady Lechmere).*

Shirts	1 bale
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SURGICAL APPLIANCES.

Purchased by the Committee.

Drainage Tube	214 yards
Gutta Percha Tissue	179 yards and 15 lbs.
Lint	309 lbs. and 290 pkts.
Sponges	200, and 10 lbs.
Large Box of Compressed Sponges	1
Small Boxes of Compressed Sponges	2
Bandages, Calico	5330
Bandages, Flannel	3340
Sets of Wadding for pads	20
Silk	240 tablets
"	328 skeins
Cotton	100 packets
Cotton Wool	50 lbs.
Wool	240 packets
Compressed Sponges	2 lbs.
Plaster	111 yds.
India Rubber Tubing	180 yds.

Contributed by the Public.

Roller Bandages	} 7 packages
Triangular Bandages	
Lint	
Charpie	
Linen	} 100 lbs.
Carbolized Tow	
Yellow Soap	
	3 cwt.

WINES, SPIRITS, &c.

Purchased by the Committee.

Port	3 doz.
Brandy	2 "
Scotch Whisky	$\frac{1}{2}$ "
Irish	$\frac{1}{2}$ "

FOOD.

Purchased by the Committee.

Roast Mutton	24 tins
Corned Beef	24 "
Corned Beef compressed	24 "
Boiled Beef	96 "
Minced Beef.. .. .	24 "
Spiced Mutton	24 "
Rissoles	24 "
Salmon	12 "
Potted Bloater	12 "
,, Ham.. .. .	12 "
,, Tongue	12 "
,, Anchovy	12 "
Extract of Meat	180 jars
Compressed Tea Cakes	10 lbs.
Albert Biscuits	12 tins
Boiled Mutton	72 "
Cocoa	162 "
Milk (Preserved).. .. .	162 "

Contributed by the Public.

Australian Meat (<i>from the Eastern War,</i> <i>&c., Committee, per Lady Lechmere</i>)..	1 box
Arrowroot (<i>given by the Licensed Vic-</i> <i>tuallers' Tea Association</i>)	1000 lbs.

SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS.

Purchased by the Committee.

Splints (various)	426 and 140 pairs
Cases of Operating Instruments	12
Cases of Pocket Instruments	{ 12
Pocket Cases	72
Amputating Cases	10
Packets of 12 Needles	36
Syringes	36
Arm Slings	21
Pins	5250
Syphons	78
Needles	72 doz.
Probes	6
Forceps (various)	36
Scissors	36
Silver Wire	48 rings
Chain Saw	1
Finger Saws	3
Post Mortem Case	1
Catheters	38 doz.
Wooden Arms	3
Wooden Legs	4
Cradles	18
Crutches	11 pairs

MAP SHOWING THE PLACES AT WHICH AID HAS BEEN GIVEN BY THE ENGLISH NATIONAL SOCIETY.



APPENDIX A.

The following is the Report which has been made to the Turco-Servian Executive Committee by Col. Loyd-Lindsay, V.C., M.P., of his mission of Chief Commissioner at the seat of war of the National Society for Aid to the Sick and Wounded:—

“It is not possible to give in this present short Report a complete account of the work done by the Turco-Servian Relief branch of the National Society during the last six weeks in the East of Europe; but I will state generally what I and Mr. Mac Cormac, together with the medical gentlemen who accompanied us, have accomplished in the mission on which we started from England on the 21st of August. One or two letters from me to Captain Douglas Galton have already appeared in the public papers. Those letters related entirely to what the Society has done in Servia, for during our stay in Turkey neither time nor opportunity offered itself for more than short messages by telegraph.

“The work of the Society in Servia has been a complete success. Such part as I have had a share in I shall always be proud of. The far larger share, which is due to others, it is my pleasing duty to record.

“Before the National Society began to move, a new and separate society—the Eastern War Committee—under Sir Edmund Lechmere, had requested Mr. Mac Cormac to select six competent surgeons to be sent out to the seat of war. These six gentlemen, viz.: Dr. MacKellar, Messrs. Atwood, Boyd, Hare, Hume, and Sandwith, started for Belgrade on the —of August, and they have worthily sustained the credit of their profession, and the confidence reposed in them by those who sent them out. Before I left England the Eastern War Committee had amalgamated with the Turco-Servian branch of the National Society, under which Mr. MacKellar and his colleagues continued to work; and Mr. Mac Cormac and I were much gratified, on arriving at Belgrade, to receive the news that they had been distinguishing themselves by their excellent surgery on the battle-field itself.

“We left Belgrade on the last day in August for Alexinatz, and, after 24 hours’ hard travelling, arrived there on the morning of the battle which was fought on the 1st of September. We carried with us two waggons full of medical stores, and were accompanied by three surgeons—Messrs. Leslie, White and Brock. These gentlemen joined their comrades, MacKellar, Atwood, &c., and, consequently, ten English surgeons were on the field during the battle of Alexinatz. The services which these skilful surgeons gave to the wounded is that which no money could have bought. There is no part of the aid given by Red Cross Societies to belligerents more free from objection than that of surgical assistance. Nations who go to war are bound to provide at their own cost the necessary requirements for hospitals for the care of the wounded. But, provide and pay what they will, the staff of surgeons in time of war must be inadequate to the demand which comes upon them immediately after a battle. The wounded of both sides may be thrown upon the surgeons belonging to one of the belligerent armies, the tide of battle may be turned back, or may roll onward, and thus no one can foresee into whose hands the wounded may fall.

“It has been seen that the National Society did not move at the outset of the war. It was for some time a matter of consideration whether the Society could take any part in a contest in which one of the parties engaged was not recognized as a belligerent nation. The aid which the Society gives cannot be given without the sanction of Her Majesty’s Government, and it was only after some correspondence with the Porte and the Servian Government that this sanction was obtained. The fact that England had in our Consul-General, Mr. White, a diplomatic agent at Belgrade through whom the Servian Government could be communicated with, removed this war from the level of most insurrectionary wars, in contests of which character the Society has made it a fundamental rule to take no part. The French and German Societies do not seem to have appreciated this distinction, and have, consequently, declined to render assistance to the wounded on either side. The Russian Societies have given aid to the Servians only.

“In the immediate pressure during and after a great battle volunteer help is usually gladly and gratefully accepted, and no questions asked. The difficulty begins when the volunteer surgeons follow the wounded into the hospitals. The army medical officers are responsible for the ambulances and for the proper care of the wounded, and they are naturally not disposed to take advice or even assistance from strangers. With regard to surgical assistance, it is difficult, owing to the lower standard of excellence arrived at in foreign field hospitals, to persuade an English surgeon to undertake it, save as passing help, from the

conviction that little good can be done. These remarks do not apply to a man of the surgical eminence of my colleague, Mr. Mac Cormac, surgeon of St. Thomas's Hospital, whose advice, both as regards difficult surgical cases and hygienic arrangements, was eagerly asked, and, apparently, mostly followed. Throughout the hospitals, more especially in Turkey, the influence brought to bear by his critical remarks was clearly of the most beneficial nature, and, in some instances, he was asked to perform operations of special difficulty. The detailed Report by Mr. Mac Cormac on these hospitals will be full of interest. In a general sketch, such as this, it will be sufficient to state that, on the whole, the local military hospitals at Widdin, Nisch, Sofia, Adrianople, and the field hospital at Alexinatz, as well as those in Servia, are, all circumstances considered, in a creditable condition.

"As I have already mentioned, after the first heavy pressure of surgical work caused by a battle has been got through, a period of comparative leisure must ensue, and if surgeons are then seen taking their ease at an inn, the critical tourist writes home in hot haste and frames a paragraph to the effect that the Society's agents are spending the Society's money in the coffee shops, and neglecting the business of the sick and wounded soldiers. The Press has, however, in most cases refrained from giving publicity to such ill-considered attacks.

"To take upon itself the establishment of reserve hospitals and ambulances has been held to be no part of the duty which a neutral Society should undertake. Hospitals should form part of the military system of the country, and no Government should go to war without providing these establishments. It is not the duty of a neutral Society to take upon itself any part of the burden of a Government. This principle has, as far as was practicable, guided the conduct of our Society in the East; and it has undoubtedly brought its agents into some unpopularity, more especially in Servia, where a disposition has been shown to endeavour to cast upon the English Aid Society duties which might perfectly well have been performed by the Government, had they not been solicitous to economize their financial resources to carry on the war. This I attribute to the fact that affairs have been taken out of the hands of the Servians, and that the war is carried on by Russians, who command the army entirely. Noticing, as I could not fail to do, these dispositions, it will naturally be asked why the English Society created a hospital at Belgrade, and why it purchased ambulance waggons and horses for the transport of the sick and wounded. With regard to the ambulance waggons, they may be said to be a matter of luxury, and if a needy Government carry their wounded to the rear in common country carts, although the suffering must be thereby greatly aggravated, yet they may claim to have performed their bare duty towards the wounded. With regard to the horses for the ambulance waggons, the Servian Government promised to provide them, but military exigencies prevented their doing so, and the Society was forced to buy them, as otherwise its work could not be carried on.

"In establishing a hospital at Belgrade we had three objects in view, the chief of which was, of course, to give aid to the wounded soldiers and peasants serving in the Servian army, for whom the utmost sympathy is due. The other objects were to establish a hospital, after which other hospitals in Servia may be modelled; and to provide a place where it was possible to employ usefully English surgeons, which would hardly have been possible in any native hospital. A detailed report of the working of the English hospital will be furnished by the medical staff engaged. The building was selected by Mr. Mac Cormac, who gave directions for, and saw carried out, a most perfect system of ventilation by windows opening on each side of 10 or 12 wide and lofty rooms, furnishing in all, accommodation, without crowding, for 100 beds. In selecting a situation for the English hospital special pains were taken. There was at first an impression that the neighbourhood of Semendria should be adopted, and Mr. Mac Cormac and I devoted many hours and much travelling to the investigation of this question. In all these proceedings we were aided by Baron Mundy, Chief Superintendent of Foreign Ambulances, whose energy and devotion to the cause cannot be sufficiently praised. Belgrade was finally decided on as the most eligible site, and we left the hospital in working order, under the management of Dr. MacKellar and Messrs. Little, Sandwith, and Hare; Dr. Laseron, with four English deaconesses to superintend the nursing; and Mr. Barrington Kennett as transport agent; hospital assistants and rations being provided by the Servian Government. We have since had the satisfaction of learning that the hospital is considered a model of order and good management, and the beds have been constantly full. I consider much of the success to be due to the support kindly given to it by the English Consul, Mr. White, whose hospitality and kindness, with that of his wife, will not be forgotten by the English at Belgrade. On our leaving Belgrade, some over-patriotic officials were disturbed at the quantity of stores we took with us to Turkey; but strict impartiality of dealing is a matter difficult of comprehension to people who are fighting against one another.

"At Widdin, Mr. Mac Cormac inspected all the Turkish military hospitals, and we left, with them various medical stores. Both by word and by letter the most grateful thanks were expressed to us by the Governor and the chief military surgeon for the assistance thus rendered.

"A very long and arduous journey of three days and nights over the Balkan mountains took us to the Turkish head-quarters at Alexinatz. While I visited the camps and outposts with Sir Arnold Kemball, Mr. Mac Cormac established the most friendly relations with the Chief Surgeon of the Turkish Army. The result was that a complete understanding was come to with regard to the position of the four English Surgeons, who forthwith took up their position in the fore part of the Turkish Army. The names of these gentlemen are Dr. Leslie, Messrs. Pitts, White, and Barker. Since my return I have received telegraphic messages from Mr. Leslie to the effect that the hospital marquees (which we brought from London) are pitched, and the beds filled, that the stores have arrived, that the surgeons have been working day and night, and that they are themselves flourishing. Dr. Leslie is now the chief surgeon and agent of the Society in Turkey. He is supplied by the Ottoman Bank at Adrianople with money, which has to be sent to him in parcels by a messenger. He has also a credit at Constantinople, with instructions to purchase there whatever things are necessary for the sick and wounded soldiers of the Turkish army.

"At Sofia Mr. Mac Cormac and I entered into the following arrangements in furtherance of our mission. We visited the hospitals as usual, and requested to know in what way we could be of use. After consideration we agreed to the request to set up a hospital for 100 beds, providing everything needed for such an establishment. A list was furnished, which included everything, from bedsteads and bedding, down to nightcaps and slippers. Blankets could not be procured at Sofia, so those were sent down from Constantinople. The Turkish Government provides food, rations, pay, &c., of the employés. Three English surgeons, who were previously in the pay of the Turkish Government, have been placed in charge of the hospital, and the whole responsibility and management rests with the Turkish authorities. The names of the English surgeons are Messrs. Elmslie, Cheyne, and Roy. Availing ourselves of local knowledge and local means of distribution, according to necessities, we left a sum of money with Mr. Black, the Director of the Ottoman Bank at Adrianople, who wrote to me as follows, on the 25th of September:—

"I went over the military hospital here the other day with a friend. I am glad to say that for the present at least I found the arrangements satisfactory. The diet is plentiful and good, the beds appear comfortable and tolerably clean. The wards are well ventilated. The men themselves told us their wants were well provided for, and as we arrived we saw tobacco distributed to the wounded. As a rule, men with comparatively slight wounds only are brought to this hospital, and when sufficiently cured to enable them to travel are sent to Constantinople. On Thursday there were about 100 in the hospital, but there are fresh arrivals almost daily, and a large number is expected. I am told that orders will shortly come from the capital to increase the number of beds to 500. I have requested the doctors to make out a list of the things they may require for the hospital, and I will use my discretion as to the choice of the things to be purchased."

"Where our agents are still disbursing money I have thought it better in this Report not to specify the sum placed at their disposal, knowing from my own experience the inconvenience caused by the large sum at my command being generally known abroad. At Constantinople I left a sum of money with Lady Elliot, to be drawn upon in case of need, and at Belgrade I left the Consul General, Mr. White, a sum of money for current expenses. At Constantinople we thought it useless to make any provision for the wounded; the town is rich, and the hospitals are reported to be in good order. Not so the district of Scutari, in Albania, in which neighbourhood the war has constantly been going on, and where there is nothing but an impoverished people and a large and destitute town. Captain Carter and Mr. Kirkman Loyd are now at Scutari as agents of our Society. They have informed us that they have established a hospital there for 70 beds, and handed it over, in complete working order, to the Turkish authorities, upon whom the responsibility of working it now rests.

"Baron Mundy's transport service for wounded by hospital barge and steamboats on the Danube is a capital work, and reflects great credit on the Baron.

"Enclosed with this are Reports by Mr. Mac Cormac, Dr. Laseron, Dr. Charles, and Mr. Barrington Kennett.

"R. LOYD-LINDSAY.

*"To the Executive Committee for Turco-Servian Relief,
National Society for Aid to the Sick and Wounded in War.*

"LONDON, October 10th, 1876."

Report by the Surgeon-in-Chief to Captain Douglas Galton, C.B.,
Chairman of the Executive Committee, National Society for Aid to the
Sick and Wounded in War :—

"Sir,—I beg to make the following brief statement of the arrangements which, in concert with Colonel Loyd-Lindsay, were made in Serbia and Turkey to render aid to the sick and wounded of the present war.

"Before leaving London I had personally selected a quantity of stores, surgical instruments and appliances, dressings, medicines, and disinfectants, such as I thought most desirable, in order to bring with us. These were arranged in two equal divisions, one being destined for Turkey, the other for Serbia.

"It may be here convenient to state that all these stores, amounting in value to at least £900, arrived at their several destinations without loss or injury of any kind, and the distribution of the larger portion of them was personally supervised by Colonel Loyd-Lindsay and myself.

"A fortnight previously I had, in concert with Surgeon-Major Manley, V.C., as Honorary Associate of the Order of St. John, selected six surgeons to proceed to the seat of war. These were Mr. MacKellar, Mr. Atwood, Mr. Hare, Mr. Hume, and Mr. Sandwith,—all surgeons—and Mr. Boyd as a dresser. These gentlemen went out under the auspices of the Eastern War Sick and Wounded Relief Fund, and the National Society afterwards adopted them as officers of their own. These gentlemen, with Mr. MacKellar at their head, have been doing duty in the front lines of the Servian Army, being, of course, much exposed. Invaluable assistance has thus been afforded to the Servian wounded. Dr. Vladan Georgowitch, the principal medical officer of that army, expressed to me his high sense of their services and devotion, while Russians and Servians alike beg, when wounded, to be placed under the care of the English surgeons.

"Of the stores brought by Colonel Loyd-Lindsay and myself to the front, Dr. Georgowitch made a selection, retaining all that he required, the balance being safely brought back to Belgrade for use in the hospital afterwards to be established there. After consultation with Baron Mundy, the Servian Minister of War, the Surgeon in Chief (Dr. Sava Petrovitch) and our Consul-General (Mr. White), it was decided to place the Society's reserve hospital in Belgrade. After inspecting several places, I decided upon the buildings of the *Realschule* as not only the most suitable, but as being exceedingly well adapted for our purpose. That this belief was not a mistaken one, I beg to refer to Dr. Charles's report of the flourishing appearance the hospital presents since its installation. Thanks to Mr. and Mrs. White, Mr. MacKellar, Dr. Laseron, and others entrusted with the task, the English ambulance in Belgrade reflects credit upon all concerned. Mr. MacKellar, Mr. Hare, Mr. Sandwith, and Mr. Little are now at work in this hospital, which, the last report states, has received 90 patients; while Messrs. Atwood, Boyd, Brock, and Hume still remain busily working at the front.

"We now started with four surgeons—Messrs. Leslie, Pitts, White, and Barker—and the balance of our stores for Turkey. On arriving at Widdin we put ourselves in communication with Rifaat Pasha and the principal medical officer, Colonel Dr. Aziz Bey. They undertook to take charge of a certain quantity of stores, which we left with them to distribute to any point where need might arise. We then started, on September 12th, for the Headquarters of the Army before Alexinatz, and reached Nisch after a long and fatiguing journey, our stores having preceded us in bullock carts. At the camp, the chief surgeon, Dr. Voulcovitch Bey, was delighted with the offer of aid I proposed to him. He promised to place the English surgeons in tents beside his own, and to treat them with every possible consideration. I have since heard from Mr. Leslie, by letter and telegram, that he has brought up all the stores to the front and pitched two hospital marquees, and he states that he and the other surgeons have been working day and night, attending the wounded of two serious engagements which had just taken place.

"On both sides the system of speedy evacuation is very completely carried out, although the means of transport are most rude, being, in fact, the bullock waggons universal in Serbia and Bulgaria. In Serbia Mr. Kennett has organized, at the instance of Colonel Loyd-Lindsay, a transport of three properly constructed ambulance wagons, and with them he has already brought wounded soldiers to Belgrade.

"It was Colonel Loyd-Lindsay's desire to establish a reserve hospital in the Turkish rear, similar to that already provided for in Belgrade. Nisch was in every respect unsuitable, being most unhealthy and over-crowded; but at Sofia we found a most desirable building fitted to accommodate 100 beds; and in Dr. Takvorian, the principal medical officer, a gentleman of energy and tact, who promised to render us every assistance. Sofia is a healthy town, lying on elevated ground; the want of additional accommodation was much felt there. It is sufficiently near the front and on the direct line of evacuation. Indeed, while we were

actually visiting the hospital there, a convoy of 60 wounded arrived from the front. They had to remain exposed for a long time to a broiling sun in the court-yard of the hospital, and I fear there was much difficulty in finding accommodation for them. I now conclude this short account of the scope of the Society's operations in Servia and Turkey.

"Your surgeons have rendered invaluable services, at much personal risk, at the head-quarter camps of both armies; while in the rear on each side an ambulance hospital has been established, where the want of such accommodation was most felt.

"I have every reason to think that the funds of the Society have been expended to the best possible advantage; that the surgeons sent out have all been placed where their services can be most efficiently rendered; and that the stores have been distributed without loss or delay to those points where they were most required.

"WILLIAM MAC CORMAC,
"Surgeon-in-Chief, National Society for Aid
"to the Sick and Wounded."

"LONDON, October 10th, 1876."

THE WOUNDED IN MONTENEGRO AND ALBANIA.

The following Report has been presented to Colonel Loyd-Lindsay, Chief Commissioner at the seat of war, of the British National Society for Aid to the Sick and Wounded in War:—

"After receiving instructions from you in Constantinople we set out on the 26th September to inquire into the condition of the Sick and Wounded of the district of Scutari, in Albania; and to offer such assistance as we should think advisable on behalf of the National Society. In compliance with your suggestion we took with us 100 blankets as a provision, to some extent, against the approaching cold weather. We proceeded in steam boat, touching at Syra and Corfu, to Antivari, where we landed on the 5th October. From this point a ride of about 25 miles along a mountainous path brought us on the following morning to Scutari. Sir Henry Elliot had given us letters of introduction to Mr. Kirby Green, the British Consul, and had also bespoken for us, through the medium of the War Office at Stamboul, a favourable reception by the Turkish authorities. On arrival at Scutari we learnt from the Consul that the authorities of the district were (1) Dervesh Pahca, in command of the Turkish forces on the east of Montenegro; (2) Doctor Colonel Matcovitch Bey, chief of the medical service of Dervesh Pacha's army; (3) Mustapha Pacha, the Governor of Scutari; (4) Selim Pasha, commandant of Scutari and president of the military commission. We found no reason to communicate with Dervesh Pacha, who was at the front with the army. We obtained our information as to the sick and wounded from Matcovitch Bey, who took us over the hospitals. In arriving at a conclusion as to the best mode of affording aid we received valuable advice and assistance from Mr. Green. Our ultimate proposal was thoroughly approved by the Governor of Scutari, and the president of the military commission. The number of the sick and wounded at Scutari at the time of our visit was 536.

"The accommodation was as follows:—1. The permanent military hospital constructed to hold 100 beds comfortably upon the first storey. Upon this storey 130 beds had been placed; 90 more beds had been laid on the floor of two large store-rooms under the first storey, making the total number of beds in the hospital 220. The windows of the two store-rooms were small, far apart, and upon one side of the rooms only. 2. Barracks close to the permanent hospital had been converted into a hospital of 300 beds. The above two hospitals were about half a mile out of the town. 3. A portion of some barracks in the town had been fitted up with beds, and could, on short notice, have received 60 occupants. In this building the remaining patients, who were convalescent, had been placed. All these hospitals were scrupulously clean, and there was an appearance of comfort, so far as possible under the circumstances, about the patients. All seemed to be resigned to their lot, except the inmates of one room, whose aspect was most distressing. These were seven Turkish soldiers whose noses, and in one or two instances whose lips also, had been cut off. These men had been placed in a room by themselves, and in answer to our inquiries we were told that they had suffered mutilation at the hands of their Montenegrin enemies. Notwithstanding the care bestowed upon the comfort of the patients, it was evident that they were placed too close together. Some relief might no doubt have been afforded by moving some of them into the third building above mentioned, but the authorities seemed unwilling to increase the labour of medical supervision and the expense of hospital attendance for so small an increase of accommodation as would result from so doing. Podgoritzza and Spuz were regarded as being unfit for more than a temporary resting place for sick or wounded

men, their situation being in the midst of the fighting, and their resources small compared with those of the important town of Scutari. As such temporary resting places they might, or might not, be required according to the turn of events; but whichever direction the fighting might take, the Government intended to provide all the shelter and relief in their power at Scutari, as the centre for the sick and wounded of that frontier. Of medicines and instruments we were assured that no further supply was required, and we saw a well appointed pharmacie at the permanent hospital, and a large store of unopened cases of medicines of various sorts, which had been sent from Constantinople. There was also a large store of hospital clothing and towels. Upon the above facts we were of opinion that it was at Scutari that the Society should give its aid, and that the aid should, if possible, take the form of increased accommodation.

"We therefore obtained an interview with the Governor, and made the following proposal:—That if the Government would place at our disposal a suitable house, we would undertake to furnish it and supply it with all things necessary to constitute a hospital for 100 beds. To this the Pacha assented. But large houses are not easily to be hired in Scutari, and the Albanian house-owners are prosperous and independent. None of them would come to terms with the Government. It was said that since the outbreak of the war several of the townsfolk had made contracts with the Government, and after fulfilling the contract had found that payment was indefinitely deferred. We therefore resolved to go round with the Government interpreter, who had been in search of a house for us, and try, by the offer of rent in advance, to obtain the use of a house suitable for hospital purposes. We succeeded in securing a large house with a court-yard and magazines, which could easily be turned into a hospital for 70 beds. We hired this house for six months. Possession was to be given in three days, and the Society has the option of retaining possession for a second period of six months, if continued hostilities should render such a course desirable. We left with Mr. Green the funds necessary to fit up this house as a hospital for 70 beds. The patients' clothing and towels will be supplied from the Government stores. The furnishing will be carried out under the supervision of Matcovitch Bey, and when the beds are ready they are to be occupied at once by wounded men, to be removed thither from the existing over-crowded hospitals, if no more urgent need for accommodation has arisen. The wounded placed in the hospital will be under the care of the Turkish surgeons. The British Consul has consented to see this arrangement satisfactorily carried out, and to keep the Society informed of the conduct of affairs at the hospital, and of any new requirements that may arise in the district if the war should be prolonged.

"J. COLEBROOKE CARTER.

"A. K. LOYD.

"LONDON, *Oct. 31st*, 1876."

APPENDIX B.

THE WOUNDED IN TURKEY.

Extracts from Letters by Dr. Leslie, Chief Agent in Turkey of the British National Society, and by Messrs. Pitts and White, his Assistants at the Nisch Hospital :—

“AMBULANCE ANGLAISE, QUARTIER GÉNÉRAL OTTOMAN,
“NISCH, *October 5th*, 1876.

“The condition of the wounded in the hospitals in Nisch is most unsatisfactory, but it is likely to be remedied to a little extent by the arrival of five English surgeons, in the Imperial service. The gentlemen in question have their battalions here at the front, but are not allowed to join them. The authorities object to strangers seeing the manner in which the wounded are treated, on the battle-field and anywhere else, but especially on the battle-field.

“Sir A. Kemball’s impression is that Red Cross Associations tend to keep at a low standard the efficiency of an Army Medical Staff, by teaching the authorities to look to the Association for support, in case of need. But surely that line of argument cannot apply to the Turkish Army, in which there is no efficient medical staff whatever, or any approach to it.

“I am glad to be able to inform you that our standing here is a high one. We have proved to *everybody here*, that we were really wanted. Our party were engaged from Thursday till Sunday night, day and night, getting a snatch of sleep only occasionally. Mr. Pitts is a good surgeon, and a credit to any ambulance. I shall do all I can to help the hospital at Sofia.

“The weather here continues very fine, and the camp has proved a very healthy place, but food is sometimes difficult to get from Nisch, especially when the Servians try to attack us in the rear and cut off our road, as they have been trying lately. Preserved provisions would prove invaluable, and I am going to get, if possible, the things you were kind enough to send to Tartar Bazarjik. Many thanks for the waterproof sheet.

“We have distributed now and then small quantities of tobacco to the wounded, and on the occasion of my visiting the hospitals in Nisch, I have given the patients a little here and there.

“My aim, ever since your departure, has been to make the Government do as much as possible in relieving our charges, but it is difficult to get a good horse from them ; they are very polite and full of promises.

“Rest assured that I shall do everything to promote the Society’s object, and that all of us, in every way, are eager to do credit to it.

“A. LESLIE.

“P.S.—I have visited General Kemball since writing the above. I think that after the two recent engagements he has altered his impression concerning our Society.”

“NISCH, *October 9th*, 1876.

“I write to say that we are now progressing in a most satisfactory manner, Sir Arnold Kemball is doing everything to remove difficulties from our path. The chief of the staff has promised us horses and an interpreter, if the latter could be got.

“A. LESLIE.”

“ALEXINATZ, NISCH,
“*October 19th*, 1876.

“I am now making arrangements (which are likely to be brought to a speedy conclusion) for establishing a small hospital in Nisch for the reception of cases on which we have no time to operate in the field ; such work would keep two of us busily engaged during the intervals between battles. We have skirmishes almost every night, and the officials in camp have led us to understand that they would gladly accept of the continuation of our services at the front. The Turkish troops can no longer delay attacking, and, as I write, they are taking up positions in the Morava Valley ; in fact, a battle is impending.

“The sick (not wounded) leave the camp at the rate of 300 a week. There is not the slightest foundation for Mr. Farley’s letter in the *Times* of September the 28th. We have

not seen nor heard of one case of plague since our arrival; the men suffer principally from ague, catarrh, and perhaps dysentery.

"Our party enjoy excellent health, but we are sometimes short of food. The latter article is not so plentiful as one might suppose, communication with Nisch being difficult. However, the want of food occasionally is not likely to recur, as we have now an interpreter. Our provisions (although I wrote and telegraphed for them through the staff) have not arrived from Tartar Bazarjik. Australian meat here would be invaluable.

"I am glad to say that our services here are gradually more and more appreciated. Officers (one of whom is now a patient in our tent) frequently come to us when ill. The Turkish ambulance people are very polite, but nothing more; they tried to shelve us, but unsuccessfully. We meet General Kemball on very good terms; he does everything he can to help us.

"A. LESLIE."

"NISCH, October 23rd, 1876.

"I have at last found an opportunity of going to Sofia, and I leave the day after to-morrow, if nothing prevent. I could not go before because the men at the front objected strongly to my absence, they are not conversant with any foreign language, and are young, so opportunities for *shelving* them, when their services might have been required, would have frequently occurred. I am glad to say that, notwithstanding Colonel Voulcovitch's efforts to impede our attending to the wounded in camp, we have been very successful. I would not bear any opposition on his part. We have now been on the field during five very severe engagements, and done everything we could in the way of relieving the wounded. On the 21st inst., we began operating at 10 a.m., and finished at midnight. During the three days' fight, October 19, 20, 21, the nights were occupied in making the wounded ready for their journey (the last one, for a great many of them), and the days in performing capital operations. On the 21st, 193 carts filled with wounded left the camp for Nisch, and subsequently calèches of 150 arrived during the day. The total of sick per week, six days back was 300, but it is nearly double now. The condition of sick and wounded is *horrible in the extreme*. They are drenched with torrents of rain, starved, and left all night without *covering of any description*. Our tent on the night of the 20th inst. accommodated 73; we had no room to get round them for dressing purposes. The Turkish Ambulance, so called, have neither tents, instruments, nor stimulants. We have given them a quantity of instruments, splints, and morphia syringes, but I regret to say that they do not use them. The stores given out at Widdin are useless there, and I have asked the authorities to telegraph for them at once. Tents would be invaluable, and I need not say how useful would prove a Transport department. The amputations cannot stay in camp, on account of the cold and want of tents, and the journey on a bullock cart kills them. This I have had occasion to verify. The authorities in Nisch are of opinion that the services of our men are required in that town, the recent numerous engagements having flooded the hospitals. They have offered me a building. I intend furnishing it with a few hospital appliances, and I am confident that £50 or £100 would be better spent here than anywhere else. The money would be laid out in blankets, splints, and a few beds. If the Society do not feel disposed to send out the men I have asked for, I can hand the hospital over to the Government.

"I hope this idea of founding a hospital in Nisch will meet with your full sanction. Should the Society feel disposed to keep men at the front, where their services are urgently required, the hospital in question will answer still better. I telegraphed to you to that effect on the 19th inst. Pitts, White and Barker intend leaving here in ten days' time from this date. Pitts has rendered good service all along, and will prove a loss here. The men are still at the front, busily engaged, and intend leaving it on the eve of their departure from Nisch.

"We have now an interpreter, who acts as servant. The Government have not given us any horses, although they promised to do so. The weather is *bitterly cold*, and the battles of the 19th and 20th were fought in torrents of rain. The Turks must either advance or retreat, or their army will get rapidly decimated.

"Transacting the most trifling business here takes an eternity, so I hope you are not surprised at any seeming delay in my movements. Turkish officials, as you may know, are difficult to move, even in their own interest.

"A. LESLIE."

"NISCH, October 24th, 1876.

"I have left the camp in order to visit the hospital at Sofia. Dr. Roy tells me that the officials have not provided him with a building for the hospital, and that he meets with difficulties at every step; this I fully expected. I leave to-morrow for Sofia, in the company of Selim Effendi, the commander-in-chief's attaché; I am intimate enough with

him to be able to ask him to use his influence everywhere in our favour between this and Constantinople. He has promised to do everything he can towards establishing a hospital in Nisch, and towards the working of the one in Sofia.

"I visited the hospitals in Nisch to-day for the second time. They are *crammed*—new buildings are being continually erected, and Mahmoud Bey has put one at our disposal. If the Society intend sending some more men out, we could have an ambulance at the front (where they are fighting every day), and a hospital in Nisch, managed by our own men.

"There is a severe engagement reported here as having taken place yesterday. I don't like the idea of seeing our men leave the front at such a moment, it looks very much as if we were forsaking the Turks when our services were most required.

"A. LESLIE."

"NISCH, *November 5th*, 1876.

"Dear Colonel Lindsay,—Messrs. Pitts and White leave to-morrow for England. I cannot say how greatly I valued their presence here, and how useful they have shown themselves to the wounded, by constant attention and consummate skill. Their absence will be felt by all; and everybody, soldiers and commanders, are highly gratified at the humanity they displayed whilst at the front, and during numerous engagements.

"I remain, yours sincerely,

"A. LESLIE.

"To Colonel LOYD-LINDSAY, V.C."

"THURNING RECTORY, OUNDLE,

"*December 10th*, 1876.

"Dear Sir,—I arrived in London with Mr. White on Sunday evening. I called in Craven Street, on the Monday morning; finding you were in the Country, I thought it best to write, enclosing a letter from Mr. Leslie, and also to explain to you (by Mr. Leslie's desire) the condition of the hospital at Sofia. I shall, however, first give you a short account of our own experiences with the Turkish Army. As you may not have received yet any detailed account from Mr. Leslie, a few informal notes of our work will perhaps be of interest to you.

"We arrived in camp on the 17th of September, and left the camp for Nisch on the 3rd of November, taking our tent with us. White and myself left Nisch for Constantinople on November 6th, and at Constantinople found the party who had been sent to relieve us.

"We were fortunately able to leave the camp at a very favourable opportunity, viz., after the declaration of the armistice, and when the fighting was absolutely at an end for the winter, and after we had seen the wounded from the last battle all transported. From October 17th we had had almost incessant heavy rain, and during the last day or two of our stay, we had more than a foot of snow on the ground. The severest fighting of the war took place during the rainy weather. The battles of the 19th, 20th, and 21st October, were fought in terrible weather, and the condition of the wounded was truly horrible. They were brought to the ambulance after lying for hours in the rain, generally a portion of their clothes had to be removed to get at their wounds, and after receiving the necessary surgical attention, they were removed to tents where they had to be all night in their wet clothes, without any additional covering, and early next morning were removed in open bullock waggons to Nisch, having to travel the 20 odd miles in pouring rain, the bullock waggons not arriving at Nisch till the middle of the night or the following morning.

"The ambulance tents of the Turks (about 50 in number) were totally insufficient to receive the wounded after the more severe battles, and were crowded to excess, hence the necessity of immediately transporting all cases however severe. The tent of the Society, a large double marquee, we made into two tents, in one of which we lived, and often saw wounded. The second tent thus obtained we used as a 'verbund platz' during the day, and at night as many as 70 or 80 wounded were several times packed, who must otherwise have been entirely without shelter. By means of subcutaneous injections of morphia we were enabled to secure a good night's rest to all the more seriously wounded under our care. We were unfortunately never able to overcome the prejudice of the Greek surgeons with respect to morphia, and could not persuade them to give ease to their wounded by its use. As regards chloroform we were more successful. When we arrived in camp we found all operations performed without chloroform—or else they only played with the drug—never getting the patient under its influence. After their surgeons saw that we invariably (without fear of the result) had our patients completely narcotized, they gradually became bolder in giving it. We found the surgeons of the Turkish ambulance few in number, and very ignorant; most of the work was done by dressers, and they certainly worked hard and well. The Turkish ambulance was well supplied with lint, charpie, and bandages, but had not a

single splint worth calling a splint. We were enabled (thanks to the excellent apparatus we had with us) to send off our own cases of fracture in a state of security and comparative comfort, and were repeatedly blessed and thanked by the men after we had attended to them. We were surprised to find that the number of wounds of the first finger were quite as numerous amongst the Turks as in the Servian army, and cannot help thinking that the Servian wounds were not always self-inflicted, as I am quite certain that the Turks would not mutilate themselves, for braver soldiers never went into action!

"The Turks had a strong objection to being operated on; this, we were told, arose from their belief in a certain paradise, with an extra allotment of wives, provided they died during or soon after a battle. We were of course unable to explain to them ourselves the necessity of submitting to an operation. Their own doctors were quite contented if they refused, being unable to undertake a serious case themselves, and jealous of allowing us to perform many operations. Our work, therefore, consisted chiefly in extracting bullets, putting up compound fractures, many small operations, such as a great number of amputations of fingers, toes, &c. We also performed twelve major amputations, mostly legs, and two amputations at the shoulder-joint. We had the satisfaction of knowing that these operation-cases all safely arrived in Nisch. With respect to the number of finger wounds, Voulcovitch Bey (the Chief of the Turkish ambulance) informed us that they arose from the fact that as most of the fighting took place in the woods, behind trees, the fingers were the part most exposed to fire. My own impression was that the men, in the hurry of firing and in the excitement of battle, forgot to shut the breech; whether this would produce the injury, you could form a better opinion than myself. The first battle, as you are aware, took place during an armistice. On the night of September 23rd, the Servians broke the armistice by a night attack on a Turkish bridge; we saw them most distinctly open fire, and commence the attack, and on the 28th they made a most determined attack on our line.

"During the 28th and 29th our ambulance was very hotly shelled, one shell bursting within ten yards of us, as we were standing close together; fortunately, none of our party were injured. In consequence of our exposed position, we received orders to move to a safer position on the 30th. There were a great number of sick in the Turkish camp. All our party had very good health, with the exception of occasional attacks of diarrhœa. We provided our own commissariat, obtaining food as best we could from Nisch; at times we ran very short of provisions, and often had nothing for days beyond rice and soldiers' bread. The box of preserved meat, tea, &c., which you kindly sent from Constantinople, we never received. We were much indebted during our stay in the Turkish camp to Sir Arnold Kemball for his unvaried kindness; he was most constant in his inquiries as to the condition of the sick and wounded, and was always ready at any time to procure what we desired from the Turkish officials.

"During the whole of the time that we were with the Turkish Army we never witnessed any atrocity, and those we heard of, always proved unfounded. Villages that were taken were certainly burnt, but always much to the regret of the Turkish Commanders, and burnt by the irrepressible Irregulars. I see by the *Times* of yesterday, that it is now a disputed point whether the Turks occupied Alexinatz on the 31st of October, or on the 1st of November. White, Barker, and myself obtained horses on the afternoon of the 31st, and rode into Alexinatz on purpose to see the condition of the town. We had to ford the much swollen Morava, as the bridges were all destroyed. We found the town occupied then by Turkish troops—both cavalry and infantry. A sentinel being placed at every door; the utmost order prevailed. A number of fugitives, about 30, were coming out of the town, under the protection of a Turkish guard; and we know for a fact that only four people out of those who had remained in the city lost their lives. I was tempted, on seeing that the Servians disputed the date of occupation, to write a line to the *Times* stating the condition in which we found the town on the 31st, but refrained from doing so, remembering that we had promised you not to make communications to the newspapers. About a fortnight before leaving the camp Mejid Pacha gave us an order for a cow; and we were then, during the latter part of our stay, well supplied with meat. I may mention that we found the £1 a-day granted to us sufficient to cover all expenses of living, and our journey out and home.

"I must apologize for the length of this letter. I do not wish to be thought to be giving you any official statement—leaving that entirely to Mr. Leslie; but Mr. Mac Cormac suggested to me that you would like to have some particulars of our experiences. As both White and myself have kept diaries of our life in the Turkish Camp, we should be able possibly to give you some information on any point which you may wish.

"I was commissioned by Mr. Leslie to explain to you the position of affairs at Sofia. I found the hospital in a very satisfactory condition, with 50 patients in it—all looking very comfortable; 31 more beds were awaiting patients shortly expected, and more beds could be made on emergency. Mr. Roy was assisted in his work by a Mr. Stephens, a very nice, gentlemanly Scotchman, who was quartered at Sofia with his battalion, and was giving voluntary help.

"Whilst in Constantinople I visited the hospital at Scutari, and saw there a number of Turks, with noses and lips cut off, which had been done by Montenegrins.

"Believe me, yours very truly,

"BERNARD PITTS.

"To Col. LOYD-LINDSAY, V.C., M.P."

"AMBULANCE DE LA CROIX ROUGE, ALEXINATZ,

"November 1st, 1876.

"My dear Sir,—I shall not like to show my face in London without having sent you a line during the long interval that has elapsed since I saw you. Next Monday we shall have been under canvas seven weeks, during this time we have had about eight large affairs, giving us good opportunities for doing work; the engagements of the last three weeks having been more severe than the earlier ones. The Turks, as you know, have much improved their position. There are now no Servians on this side of the Morava, and the garrison of Alexinatz simply "sloped"—excuse the slang—the night before last, leaving the town in the hands of the Turks. The Turks have now possession of a place, without the loss of a single man, which Fazly Pacha thought would cost him 4000 men to take by assault. Yesterday morning we could hardly believe the report that it was evacuated, but later in the day had proof positive. Barker went over about mid-day yesterday to the head quarters, to take back some *Times* to Sir A. Kemball and bring back horses for a ride. On his return he brought permission for us to enter Alexinatz, and also four short pieces of silver cord in commemoration of the event. We soon put on our white macintoshes and Red Cross caps, and mounted; we were accompanied by two cavalry soldiers. After a ride through awful mud and the ruins of villages, we reached the ford of the Morava. Here we saw a band of about 30 refugees, mostly women, from Alexinatz under escort. The ford presented a peculiar scene. Besides riding and pack-horses, there were dozens of soldiers and Bashi-Bazouks wading, carrying fowls, tobacco, pipes, china, pictures, &c., which they had obtained as the fruit of their enterprise. Landed on the other side, we galloped through the fort, over the sands between it and the town, crossed the bridge over the Banja River, and up the main street as far as the church. It was getting dark, and so we could not spend much time in looking about. There were sentries at all the large houses, and they presented arms as we went along. The street was strewn with baskets, chests of drawers, pictures, and the church bell with its tongue cut out. A Circassian was chevying an ass up and down with a view to annexation. We could not see that the town had suffered much by the previous bombardment; the windows were broken and a few doors off, but nothing more. There was a strong cavalry patrol, to prevent any incendiarism from spoiling what the Turks hope to make their winter quarters if necessary. Pitts and Barker bought rusty pistols, five of them, about a yard long each, and I a service-hood of a Bashi-Bazouk by way of a remembrance. We got back to camp about 7.30. This for me completes the circle, retreating from Alexinatz with more rapidity than grace on the 1st September, and after certain peregrinations entering it in triumph on the 31st October. One would almost think the Red Cross had the power of working miracles.

"Leslie has not returned yet from Sofia, where he has been for three or four days setting Roy on his legs. This morning there is snow, and it is awfully cold. We hope to get into Nisch before the end of the week, and make preparations for the journey home, as we are in rags. We come *via* Constantinople, Marseilles, and hope to be back towards the end of the present month. Believe me, with kind regards, in which Pitts and Barker join,

"Yours very sincerely,

"C. HAYDON WHITE.

"To W. MAC CORMAC, ESQ.

"P.S.—November 15th.—As I have not had an opportunity of posting this, I will add a few lines as to our later movements. Leslie returned from Sofia on the 2nd instant, and found us in snow a foot deep, and wind and cold to match. We left the camp on the 3rd, and had one of the most awful journeys to Nisch possible to imagine; the snow in the valley had melted, and mud was on an average six inches deep along the track; one horse was left in the road to die. The last four days has been an experience of winter campaigning that none of us are anxious for again. We are now staying at the house where you left us, and are fairly comfortable. Nisch is indescribable in the mud line. Pitts and myself hope to start to-morrow for Constantinople, allowing 18 days for our journey to England. We expect to meet the new arrivals *en route*. The men in the Turkish pay are offering money for their liberty, which they cannot obtain—poor beggars."

APPENDIX C.

THE WOUNDED IN SERVIA.

Reports by Dr. Laseron, Director of the Society's Hospital at Belgrade, to Captain Douglas Galton, C.B., Chairman of the Executive Committee for Turco-Servian Relief, National Society for Aid to the Sick and Wounded in War:—

"No doubt you have learnt by this time from Colonel Loyd-Lindsay that I had to go to Vienna to purchase the further outfit for the hospital here. Scarcely had I returned from that place when we received a notice that 25 wounded would be brought from the interior.

"On the arrival of the patients, hot baths were provided, and each one had to pass through a cleansing process, after which he received clean body-linen and was led to a clean bed, where his wounds were dressed and his bodily wants attended to. This day did not appear like Sunday, as each had a hard day's work; and, in addition to this, we had to become acquainted with the new warders—youths who had never seen a severe wound, much less a gunshot wound, and were totally unacquainted with nursing.

"The first house that we occupied was a girls' school, which, before occupation, had sanitary arrangement provided. In it there were three wards, with 27 patients, and also the stores. On the following Wednesday, 17 more patients were announced; they had to be contented with the straw mattresses, as the goods had not yet arrived here. The greater part of the poor fellows were in a deplorable condition; their serious wounds had been neglected, and some not dressed for three days. I had not seen such neglected cases even during the eight months of the Franco-German War. They also had to pass through the ablution process, and with no little astonishment did they look at those who performed this task. Such a thing had not occurred to them all their life long.

"Since that day, five or six great operations have been skilfully performed by Mr. MacKellar, who was ably assisted by Messrs. Hare, Sandwith, and Little, and since Friday last by Mr. Atwood. Since then there have been 25 more admitted, so that our total number of wounded is 69. A priest also found admission here, who was operated upon, but died 24 hours after the operation.

"The hospital arrangements are, according to English notion, yet imperfect; but we all endeavour to promote the welfare of those who are committed to our care, and also for the honour of England.

"There is plenty of work for our Deaconesses, and if we had four times that number they would not be too many even for Belgrade alone. We frequently get very tired. We expect another batch of wounded on Thursday or Friday—perhaps 25. The Servian soldiers, upon the whole, bear their sufferings with great fortitude; there are, of course, some who yield to their feelings, and exhibit a low spirit. They are, upon the whole, fine fellows, and are greatly to be pitied, being totally uneducated.

"Few among them can read, and those who can, we supply with a New Testament, which they often read aloud to their companions in the ward.

"Last Saturday I obtained from the Minister of War ten soldiers as warders, and now we begin to work a little easier.

"We have many visitors, especially Russian doctors. We are expecting the three young doctors, who, until now, have been at the front. Our staff will then be considerable.

"With respect to Mr. Kennett, he has furnished me with a copy of his written instructions from Colonel Loyd-Lindsay. His chief work will be running between the front and Semendria with the wounded for this hospital, and distributing among the ambulances in the front such of the Society's stores as may be selected here for that purpose. He will also keep up communication with any surgeons he may have in the advanced lines. He is sending you his report in conformity with his instructions.

"Before concluding, I must not omit that Mrs. White, the wife of the Consul-General, has aided us in the completion of the hospital.

"We enjoyed a visit, and also counsel, from Baron Mundy, the chief of the sanitary affairs of Servia.

"And now let me say that your kind letter was to me a welcome one. I thank you much for it, as it showed me the confidence the Committee had placed in me, and I will endeavour to be faithful to the charge. You shall hear again from me soon.

"M. LASERON, M.D.

"BELGRADE, *September 28th*, 1876."

“ENGLISH HOSPITAL, BELGRADE,

“November 15th, 1876.

“Dear Colonel Lindsay,—The Committee will be pleased to learn that the doctors and all engaged here have worked harmoniously, and all have striven to make the inmates happy, and advance their recovery. We have had 184 wounded nursed in this hospital, out of whom 105 are still under our care. They seem very grateful for the kindness shown to them. We have 12 wounded Russians, six of whom are officers (one colonel and one captain). The captain is a most amiable gentleman; he, poor man, has lost his left eye. A great number of the patients have been successfully treated, and have left cured, others are on the fair road to recovery. We have, I grieve to say, two or three dying because they refused necessary amputation. Many of those who leave us are in a state of destitution as regards clothes and money, which evil we do all in our power to cure, and, as a rule, the Government helps us in this.

“Some of the men on leaving have told me that they have learned much that is profitable here, and that they intend to arrange their home affairs in a more orderly manner. We have had, since my return here, a visit from the Princess, who entered fully and kindly into the sufferings of each patient, and expressed herself highly gratified at the cleanliness and order which prevailed here. Mr. Atwood, our head-surgeon, accompanied her round the wards, giving her every information she desired respecting the wounds. We were all introduced to her by Mr. White, with his usual kindness and courtesy. Last Thursday evening we had an unexpected visit from Prince Milan and General Tcherniaeff, who came to give medals to the soldiers and crosses to the officers. They remained here nearly two hours, and were most pleasant. They refused to give medals to those who had shot their own fingers off. Among the number of those who have favoured us with a visit, I desire particularly to mention Sir Edward and Lady Lechmere, the Rev. Lawrence, and Mr. Smith (Canbrer), from York. The domestic department involves a good deal of trouble at this time of the year, but considering the raw material (warders) we got on well. Messrs. Gimlette and Boyd left us last Sunday, and are by this time near England. Messrs. Wattie and Hume, and those mentioned above are working well. Mr. Kennett’s barge is taken for evacuation, and is found very useful. The Society could not have fixed on a better man for the service than Mr. Kennett; he is a kind and amiable gentleman. We have fitted up the barge with our beds, &c. We intend leaving here on the 30th instant, and as soon as I arrive in London I shall hope to have the pleasure of seeing you officially and privately.

“Believe me to remain, yours faithfully,

“M. LASERON.”

Report by Dr. Charles to the Surgeon-in-Chief, on the Hospital at Belgrade :—

“It gives me great pleasure to be able to make to you and Colonel Loyd-Lindsay such a favourable report of the Society’s hospital in Belgrade. In every respect it is now a model of what an ambulance hospital should be. No hospital in London is more rigorously clean, better ventilated, better fitted, or better officered for its purpose. It is furnished with every requisite for the wounded, and the arrangements made for the comfort of the patients are almost perfect. The staff is most efficient. With Dr. Laseron to administer the affairs of the hospital, Mr. MacKellar as operating surgeon, having as his assistants Messrs. Hare, Sandwith, and Little, and four able Sisters, aided by a number of Servian officials, who, under Dr. Laseron’s training, are already beginning to work well, nothing more need be desired. As Dr. Wilhelm Hack, of Heidelberg, and Dr. Rutenberg, of Bremen, who had both just completed a round of inspection of the chief hospitals in Servia, said to me, ‘The English Society’s hospital in Belgrade is the most admirably appointed in all Servia.’

“T. CRANSTOUN CHARLES, M.D.

“To WM. MAC CORMAC, Esq., M.A., F.R.C.S.,
Surgeon-in-Chief, &c., &c.”

APPENDIX D.

THE TRANSPORT SERVICE OF THE ENGLISH NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR AID TO THE SICK AND WOUNDED IN WAR.

Reports by Mr. Barrington Kennett of the work of the Society's Transport Service in Servia :—

“BELGRADE, *October 11th*, 1876.

“Dear Colonel Loyd-Lindsay,—In my last report from Belgrade, I mentioned that there was a rumour that hostilities had recommenced. This turned out to be true. Two days' severe fighting resulted in a loss of nearly 1600 killed and wounded on the Servian side. The new ambulance waggons arrived just in time to evacuate some of the most seriously wounded, 600 of whom were crowded in Parachin.

“Just before leaving Belgrade, I received information that the steamer conveying the ambulance waggons would arrive at Belgrade on Sunday or Monday, October 1, 2. Accordingly I left one of my assistants—Alexis—at Belgrade, in charge of the coachmen and horses, with orders to follow me as fast as possible to Parachin as soon as the waggons arrived. I went on in the light carriage, and passed down the whole line to Alexinatz, in order to see where the waggons would be of most use. I found that at Parachin there was the greatest want of help, so I drove back there the morning of Oct. 4th, the day on which I calculated that the waggons should arrive, bringing back with me in the carriage a wounded officer, and a soldier suffering from fever, whom I found utterly exhausted, trying to find his way to the rear. At Parachin I met Baron Mundy, the Inspector-General of Reserve Hospitals, and we at once picked out 25 of the worst cases which could stand removal. We secured 19 country covered carts of a somewhat better class than those generally used, and were lent some horses from Prince Milan's stables. We fitted up the carts with pillows and beds of hay, in order to save the wounded as much as possible of the inevitable pain which these springless carts inflict upon them.

“The same evening, to my great delight, the new waggons arrived at Parachin. A few unimportant details had been omitted in them, owing to the hurry in which they had been constructed; but, on the whole, they turned out very satisfactory. They can contain, each, four wounded lying down and two sitting, or else twelve sitting. The system for placing the wounded inside, and removing them, on their stretchers, is very simple and efficient.

“We prepared everything for the evacuation that night; the following morning we had some difficulty in collecting the requisitioned carts, but by the middle of the day they were drawn up in line near the temporary hospital. The wounded were in the meantime attended to, and after a good breakfast, placed in the waggons and carts. One doctor and assistants, also a guard of an officer and six men, accompanied the convoy.

“Baron Mundy had to go to Belgrade on business, and so came with me. He was of the greatest use, owing to his long experience of transporting the wounded, and his thorough knowledge of the people.

“We sent telegrams to the stations where we had arranged to stop to provide food, &c., and also to Semendria to prepare the hospital barge for the reception of the wounded.

“The convoy started at about 1 p.m., and reached Bursan at about 9.30 p.m. A good supper was here provided. The wounded were then wrapped up in blankets and left in the waggons for the night, the doctor giving all the surgical assistance required. As the carts were well covered, the wounded were comfortable and warm inside.

“The following morning, at 6 a.m., soup was given to all, and at 7 a.m. the convoy started again. It arrived at Orach, near Velita Plana, at about mid-day, where an excellent dinner was provided. After an hour and a half's rest we started again. Baron Mundy and I drove on ahead to Semendria, to see that everything was ready. The convoy reached Semendria at about 8.30 p.m. They were driven up alongside of the landing pier, to which the hospital barge was moored. Three quarters of an hour afterwards they were all in their beds on board the barge, having their wounds dressed by a party of dressers from one of the Semendria ambulances, who kindly gave us their assistance. Supper was then provided.

“The following day, Oct. 6th, there was no steamer going to Belgrade, so the barge remained at Semendria, under the medical superintendence of the doctor (Popovitch) accompanying the convoy. I ordered a few little alterations in the waggons, and then pitched one of our large Government hospital marquees close to the landing stage and custom-house. I shall allude to this tent farther on.

“The following day, October 8th, an Austrian steamer touched at Semendria, and by previous arrangement towed up our barge to Belgrade, where we arrived at 6 p.m. During the last hour of the voyage the wounded were placed on stretchers, to enable them to be taken out at once on arrival. Carts filled with hay, accompanied by two English surgeons from our hospital, were in readiness alongside of the landing stage to receive the wounded. By 7 p.m. they were all conveyed to the hospital, where warm baths had been prepared.

The wounds were then dressed, supper provided, and soon after the wounded were all asleep in the most comfortable hospital in Servia.

"I may add that the convoy attracted a great deal of attention, owing to its being the first attempt that has been made to organize a proper transport. As a rule, the wounded are simply placed in country carts, often uncovered ones, and sent off in batches of two or three to find their way to Semendria or Belgrade as best they can. They are changed about from cart to cart, and too often arrive at their destination utterly exhausted. I went into a little hospital the other day, where a poor fellow had just died. He had been brought in the day before by a country cart, of which the driver knew nothing as to where the wounded man came from, and the latter was too weak to speak. Such cases must occur when there is no system of proper transport.

"During the journey by road from Parachin to Semendria frequent halts were made, when 'raki,' wine, grapes, cigarettes, and other little refreshments were served out to the wounded.

"The cost of towing up the barge from Semendria to Belgrade and sending it back was 15 ducats (£7 10s.).

"The following is a general statement of the position of the transport service of our Society. We have the following :—

"Two large field hospital marquees pitched on a hill overlooking Deligrad, also the large Vienna tent; these are used as a temporary hospital for cases of dysentery and fever, until the sick can be transported to the rear, and are kept up at the expense of the Servian Government.

"One large field hospital marquee, pitched at Semendria near the landing stage and high road; boarded by the Society, and partially fitted up with mattresses, &c. This is to be used as a refreshment tent, and to afford temporary shelter to the little parties of wounded who arrive in Semendria on their way to Belgrade, tired out after three or four days, sometimes more, jolting in carts and bullock waggons; dinners to be provided at about 8*d.* a head from a neighbouring hotel. This arrangement is under the immediate inspection of the police and head of the Customs, whose office is close by. Baron Mundy, whose headquarters are at Semendria, will also superintend generally. Expenses (which are small) are paid out of our transport fund.

"Two ambulance waggons (system Mundy) and horses, continually on the road between the front and Semendria.

"One ambulance waggon (bought by Dr. Laseron in Vienna), horsed by Servian Government; this, by special request of Doctor-in-chief Vladan Georgowitch, is always in the advanced lines. It is always at the disposal of any of our surgeons who may be in the front, or of myself. It did very good service during the last two battles.

"One light carriage to run between the front and Belgrade, to be used by the surgeons and myself when it is required to travel fast; horsed by post horses which I can requisition for the purpose under the general power which the Minister of War gave me. Post horses, however, are not always to be found.

"In a few days there will be ready a hospital barge. The Government lend the barge, and the barrack will be constructed at the expense of the transport fund. It will contain wooden beds for 25 on covered deck, and as many below. Cost of construction of barrack and beds, £45. This barge will convey wounded from Semendria and Belgrade, and will also be used between Belgrade and other Danube stations to which wounded from the Morava and Drina armies may be brought.

"To-morrow I send up to the front in requisitioned carts, under the charge of my assistant, Angheloff, two small Government marquees; one for use by the party of four surgeons who leave for Deligrad to-morrow, and the second for transport services. I also send some stores selected by the surgeons, and some stores for the next transport of wounded, which I hope to be able to carry out in two days. I start for Deligrad to-morrow.

"An English surgeon will be appointed to accompany the transport. I asked MacKellar for one, as it is so necessary that the severely wounded should be properly attended to during so long a journey as that from the front to Belgrade.

"Whether there is an armistice or not, there will be a great deal of work to do. The lightly wounded suffer more in travelling in country carts than even the seriously wounded in proper waggons like our new ones. Should the snow come on in sufficient quantity, the waggons can be easily and cheaply converted into sledges, which would run very well along the level road.

"I have strictly carried out your wishes in consulting with Mr. White as to all the arrangements which I have made, and obtaining his sanction.

"The following people I have regularly engaged in the transport service, viz., Alexis and Angheloff as assistants, and two coachmen for the waggons. I shall also engage a boatman and his wife to look after the hospital barge.

"As this is my first report about a transport of wounded, I have troubled you with many details, which I shall omit in my future letters.

"Baron Mundy is Inspector-General of Reserve Hospitals, which include all the Servian hospitals in the rear of the army, and not Foreign Ambulances only.

"There is a report that the Russians are going to send a hospital steamer on the Danube, so greatly is the want of better means of transport felt. I do not know yet whether it is true.

"I do not think that the operations will be wholly suspended in winter. The Servians seem to count on doing a good deal more then, should the war unfortunately continue so long. Ambulance work will, of course, then be wanted more than ever; I know by my experience in 1870-1871 what difficulties there will be."

"SEMENDRIA, October 30th, 1876.

"It having been arranged to send four Surgeons to the front, Messrs. Hume, Boyd Sandwith and Brock were selected. These four started from Belgrade by steamer early on the morning of October 13th, the party being in charge of Mr. Hume. In the afternoon of the same day I despatched my assistant Angheloff to Parachin with five country carts containing the stores selected by Mr. Hume for their 'verbund platz,' and some other stores which I had procured from the hospital for transport purposes, including a small hospital marquee. I followed later on in the light carriage and post horses.

"On my way through Parachin, I made inquiries about the wounded, and found that nearly all the serious cases had been already evacuated from that place. I then drove on to Deligrad Camp, to find where our party could be of most use in the engagements which were expected to take place shortly.

"I arrived at Deligrad on October 14th, and called on General Tcherniaieff, and Surgeon-in-chief Dr. Vladan Georgowitch. They asked me to go with the waggons to the army of the Timok, which was about to begin an offensive movement against Zaitschar. Mr. Hume and the other surgeons, who arrived at Deligrad later, were requested to proceed in the same direction, medical help being much wanted. Dr. Georgowitch informed me that, although the roads were very bad as far as Lukova, yet that I could easily get the ambulance waggons along them, and evacuate the wounded on Parachin, and thence to Semendria and Belgrade.

"We all returned to Rashan for the night; the following morning, I gave over one of the ambulance waggons to Mr. Hume, who, with his party started off for Lukova, which he reached the following evening *via* Deligrad and Banja. Between the latter place and Lukova, the road, or rather track, crosses the spur of the highest mountain in Servia, called Rtan. Fortunately for them, the rains did not begin until the following day; yet so steep was the ascent that, even under these favourable conditions, they had to harness oxen to the waggon, and then only just accomplished their journey.

"In the meantime I drove back to Parachin, taking with me in the remaining waggon eight sick soldiers. Soon after my arrival, Angheloff came up with the convoy of stores from Belgrade. I sent him on, without a moment's delay, to Lukova, by a direct, but exceedingly difficult, road crossing the mountains near Santa Petka. I arranged that the stores should be transferred into bullock waggons at the foot of the pass. Angheloff travelled all night, and at daybreak the following morning caught up Mr. Hume's party at Lukova, where he gave over the necessary stores.

"The following morning, October 16th, I left Parachin for Lukova *via* Deligrad and Banja. I slept the night at Deligrad, and I waited there for a few hours on the morning of the 17th, owing to a heavy artillery fire having opened on the Servian position near the village of Bohovichte, which might have resulted in a general engagement; in this event the waggon, being on the spot, would have been wanted. I reached Banja on the evening of the 17th. During that night the weather completely changed, and a heavy fall of rain made the road from Banja to Lukova quite impracticable for the ambulance waggon. In consequence, I took a country cart, and reached Lukova the evening of the 18th. The road was so bad that we were completely upset once, and had some other narrow escapes. The waggon could not possibly have passed.

"I found Angheloff at Lukova, and, as there seemed every probability of the storms of wind and rain continuing, I sent back the waggon left at Banja in charge of my second assistant, Alexis. He brought it back to Parachin, taking back some wounded men on his way through Deligrad.

"I sent back the calèche to Belgrade to fetch MacKellar, who arrived at Lukova a few days afterwards, accompanied by Gimlette.

"The following morning, October 19th, I drove on towards Zaitschar, passing through the abandoned village of Bolyvatz on my way. Orders were given that the wounded in our

part of the line (the centre) should be directed on Lukova, and the hospital of Krivi-Vir, some six miles farther to the rear. The few bullock waggons and carts which could be procured were soon disposed of, and thus the wounded had to find their way back on foot through the deep mud, and in the pouring rain. Some of the severest cases did not arrive in hospital until two days after the battle. Hume and his party were stationed near Sharbanovatz; about 90 wounded passed through their 'verbund platz,' and were afterwards received at Krivi-Vir. Before I reached them they had had an accident with the waggon. Owing to the impossibility of drawing the waggon by the two horses, they had harnessed bullocks to it, and the strain on the pole caused it to snap, as they were on a roughly made bridge. Night came on; they would not desert their wounded, so they camped out the whole night in the open field and pouring rain.

"Hearing of their accident, I hastened to them with a new pole, and found them in a most miserable and exhausted condition. The pole was soon fitted in, when we all got in motion again, and reached Bozwatz late in the evening.

"The next day, October 20, all the wounded in our direction, about 90 in number, having been sent to Krivi-Vir or further on, and there being no probability of a resumption of hostilities in the neighbourhood, we all retired to Lukova, where we met the head surgeon, Longkikovitch. On inquiring about Krivi-Vir, I ascertained that some 80 wounded were crowded in there, with but one surgeon to look after them, and without a bed to lie down upon. Under these circumstances, Hume and Boyd arranged to remain at Krivi-Vir until the evacuation of the wounded could be effected. A sufficient number of ox waggons, in which the wounded were ultimately transported to Parachin, were retained for this purpose.

"The wounded in Krivi-Vir, being thus provided for, and in the hands of Hume and Boyd, I hurried back to Parachin, accompanied by Sandwith and Brock. News of the heavy fighting near Djunis and Deligrad had just reached us, and we knew that at Parachin the greatest want would be felt. We took the direct road across the mountains by Santa Petka, where we passed the night of the 21st, and reached Parachin the following morning. The rain was pouring down, and the weather intensely cold, in some places ice, nearly an inch thick, was lying alongside of where we passed.

"We found about 600 wounded, mostly from the battle near Djunis and Deligrad, crowded in Parachin, the majority not seriously wounded, but in a most miserable condition. They were sitting and lying about the ambulances and 'kafanas' waiting for admission, and begging to have their wounds dressed. Sandwith and Brock were most active in giving the surgical help so much needed. The last thing at night we visited the most crowded of the ambulances, where the wounded were lying on the floor, and tried to make the poor fellows more comfortable by giving them some of the transport pillows, and distributing 'raki' and cigars.

"The following day, October 23, Sandwith chose eight of the severest cases capable of standing the fatigue of a journey. These, together with the wounded officers, I brought back in our two waggons, and an administration cart, which was kindly lent me by one of the commissariat officers. I might have brought back a large convoy, but not a single ordinary country cart was to be had. Even the head doctor, Longkikovitch, had to wait that day for six hours before he could secure one for his own conveyance to head-quarters. One of the wounded was so ill on the way that I left him at Jagodina, and put another in his place.

"I met Baron Mundy at Semendria, where I arrived with the wounded on October 25th, after passing the two previous nights at Jagodina and Artchibegovatz. He retained some of the wounded, and asked me to take on five to our Belgrade hospital, which I did by the next steamer on October 27th.

"I had an accident with one of the horses, which became quite unmanageable after the Zaitschar expedition. It took to kicking and trying to bolt, and at last came down on its head and knees. It has cut itself a little, but I hope it will be well in a week or ten days. I have replaced it by another which has turned out so well, as the former was unsafe for transporting wounded.

"I spent October 28th in Belgrade buying a horse, and arranging the fitting up of the barge hospital. There had been an unexpected delay in finishing this, owing to some house in Pesth not having sent the contractor the waterproof preparation for the roof within the time promised. I also engaged an assistant and a coachman to replace Angheloff, who returned to Bucharest to continue his studies, and one of the former coachmen who turned out badly. My new assistant is Jean Ivanoff, a Bulgarian student of law, who speaks French and Servian well.

"The following day, October 29th, I left Belgrade for the front, sending on Ivanoff by steamer to prepare the waggons and see to some repairs which were required. My next letter will contain a report of the journey."

"Transport Service.

"SEMENDRIA,

"November 5th, 1876.

"I left Belgrade on October 29th, and slept the night in Semendria, where I had left the waggons. The following day I sent them forward in charge of Ivanoff, and followed later on in the carriage. A Swiss doctor, Sebr, accompanied the waggons at Baron Mundy's request, and, as our own surgeons were engaged in the advance position, he arranged to accompany the wounded back, if wanted.

"I reached Parachin the afternoon of the 30th, and found there Sir Edmund and Lady Lechmere. The next day a general order was given to evacuate all the wounded from Parachin. Sir Edmund went back to Jagodina with four wounded, and, as there were reports of a rapid advance of the Turks, I went on to Rashan, to which the head quarters had been removed, to see where I could best dispose of our waggons. At Rashan I met Mr. MacKellar and three others of our surgeons who had just retired from Deligrad, owing to that place being shelled. I slept the night at Rashan, expecting a battle to take place the following morning; but as all was quiet, with the exception of a slight musketry fire near Mozgova, I returned to Parachin the morning of November 1st, and stopped our waggons coming on any further. The wounded were then being rapidly removed from Parachin towards the hospitals of Cuplia and Jagodina. It was impossible to retain country carts, for as soon as they were filled they were sent off to the rear without a moment's delay; in fact, what with refugee peasants and carts retiring with military stores and wounded, the whole road was occupied by one huge convoy. A heavy fall of snow made our work more difficult.

"On November 2nd I put the last seven, somewhat seriously wounded, in our waggons, and started for the rear. We spent that night at Jagodina, after picking up another wounded at Capria. The following day we arrived at Bagradan, having been delayed a great deal, owing to the wounds requiring dressing, and our picking up some more seriously wounded at Jagodina. I then drove on here to Semendria, where I arrived yesterday night. I then visited some of the ambulances, and distributed some money and gave food to those of the wounded on the way who seemed to be in want. I found one poor fellow shot through both legs, who had been lying in a 'kafana' for three days without having had his wounds dressed; and many other cases in which the wounded had been fearfully neglected. The sudden order to evacuate the hospitals turned out upon the roads hundreds of wounded, while the means of transport and arrangements for the accommodation of the wounded, during their evacuation, turned out to be wholly insufficient. I secured, almost by force, one country carriage, and secured some others through the doctor at Saraortzi. When the peasants see that they are paid by me, they always are glad to be requisitioned by me. Our convoy, with 12 wounded, arrived here to-night, and three more of our wounded will come to-morrow, making 15 severe cases in all. These will be forwarded to the Belgrade hospital by our hospital barge the day after to-morrow. Hume and Gimlette accompanied the wounded nearly all the way, and helped to dress the wounds at the places where they passed the night. I brought back two wounded part of the way in the light carriage. I left the yellow omnibus at Jagodina, and it will come on here, drawn by oxen and filled with slightly wounded. It is too heavy for a pair of horses while the roads are in such a bad state. Moreover it is not very safe, as it turned completely over a few days ago, when luckily there was no one inside it.

"The hospital barge has turned out very well, and is in great request. This morning we sent it off with 43 wounded, of whom 20 were destined for our hospital. To-morrow it returns here, and the day after it will be towed back to Belgrade with 40 or 50 wounded, including those whom we have just brought from the front.

"In order to save unnecessary expense, I asked Dr. Laseron to fit up the barge with the superfluous stores of the hospital. This he kindly consented to do, and has himself superintended the work while I was away in the front. I have in consequence been put to but little expense over the cost of the construction. Dr. Laseron, with Hume and Gimlette, and one of the Sisters, accompanied the wounded in the barge to Belgrade.

"On my way back I met four of the new Russian ambulance waggons. They only hold two in each, and are closed in by canvas, which is not a sufficient protection in this intensely cold weather. They are lighter, of course, than our waggons, but on the whole much inferior. Twelve more I believe are ordered. The Russian hospital steamer to which I referred in a former letter has never arrived.

"Our tents which I pitched near Deligrad are now at Jagodina. While they were being struck, some shells fell into the middle of them, but no one was hurt. The weather is now getting too cold for their use.

"I enclose the plan of the hospital barge which accompanied the contract for its construction. The barge was supplied by the Government, the barrack constructed at the expense of the Society's transport service fund.

"A general evacuation of wounded is taking place. Belgrade, Obrenowaz, and Shabatz

being the points on which they are being concentrated. Baron Mundy's barge is now engaged evacuating 200 wounded from Dubrawitz, and has been, off and on, in constant use since its construction.

"The following is a rough estimate of the number of sick and wounded belonging to the different armies :—

"I have it on the best authority—

				Wounded.		Sick.
Army of the Ebor	..	..	..	200	....	400
Ditto Drina	..	..	..	350	....	800
Ditto Morava and Timok	..	..	..	2000	....	1500
Total	..	..	..	2550		2700

"The number of sick in the latter army is rapidly increasing, owing to the state of the weather.

"To-day I send the two waggons and the light carriage to Posharewaz to assist in transporting the wounded from that hospital to Dubrawitz, where they will be taken up in Baron Mundy's barge, and conveyed to Obrenowaz under the care of Dr. Gebe. The waggons will be in charge of my assistant, Ivanoff, as I remain here to superintend the barge transport, and make some slight alterations in the barrack.

"I enclose a list of the *personnel* and *matériel* at my disposition for the transport service—

"The *personnel* of the transport service consists of myself and

- 2 Assistants for road transport.
- 3 Coachmen for ditto.
- 1 Assistant for the barge.
- 1 Bargeman with wife, who steer and clean the barge.

"The *matériel* consists of

- 2 Ambulance waggons (Mundy's).
 - 1 Ditto omnibus, drawn by oxen.
 - 1 Light carriage.
 - 7 Horses (2 lent by Government).
 - 3 Tents at Jagodina.
 - 1 Ditto at Parachin.
 - 1 Ditto at Semendria.
 - 1 Ditto at Belgrade.
 - 1 Hospital barge.
- Blankets, pillow-cases, medicines, &c., for road and river transport."

"Transport Service.

"BELGRADE, November 9th, 1876.

"Our barge, which started from Semendria on November 4th with 43 wounded, arrived safely in Belgrade. Twenty of these wounded were received in our hospital, and the others were sent to the Russian hospital.

"The barge was towed back to Semendria early the following morning, Hume, Boyd and my barge-assistant, Lazarre, coming to Semendria later on by road.

"Arrangements were immediately made by me for the evacuation of the hospital of the Russian Princess Chakovskaia's Society. This Society had one of the best, if not quite the best, of the ambulances out of Belgrade. Their hospital at Parachin was full of severe cases ; being near the front, they received wounded who were too ill to be able to resist the fatigue of transport. When the general order to evacuate all the wounded in Parachin was given, this, with the other hospitals, was quickly cleared, the wounded being hurriedly placed in ox waggons, or whatever could be got, and transported to Semendria. They arrived at their destination in three or four days, after losing some wounded on the road, but there was no hospital ready to receive them. Every building capable of being turned into an ambulance was crowded, and there were no means of transporting these refugee wounded on to Belgrade. In addition, the road from Semendria to Belgrade is extremely bad, and the wounded could hardly have resisted the cold and fatigue of the journey. They were accordingly taken to a Cafanas (little inn) and laid on the ground, where they had remained for three days, attended to by their own surgeons and sisters. In the meantime, the Princess found a hospital at Belgrade to receive them when they could be sent there.

"I did not know whether I could secure the services of the steamer to tow us until late in the evening, but so anxious were the Russian doctors to evacuate their wounded, that with this short notice we managed to get the whole of the wounded, some 50 in number, on board

by mid-day the following day, Nov. 7, and, in addition, the whole of their *matériel* and some of their stuff. I also took 6 out of the 15 severely wounded whom I had brought back from the front by road, the rest being in too critical a condition to be moved. Just before starting, some 10 half-starved, tired-out sick and wounded, who seemed to belong to no hospital, begged to be taken on board, which I had not the heart to refuse. In all, we took in nearly 80 people, including doctors, sisters, and attendants.

"Soon after starting, a good dinner, for which I had contracted at Semendria, was given to all. As soon as the steamer had come in sight, I had ordered the meat, soup, &c., to be taken on board, and kept these warm in the little kitchen adjoining the barrack on the barge.

"Leaving Semendria at 1 p.m., we arrived at Belgrade at about 6 p.m. Doctor Sava Petrovitch (the acting Secretary of the Medical Department at the Ministry of War) was waiting at the pier to receive us. Two of our own doctors were also there to take away their wounded, which were landed first. A large staff from the Princess's hospital was also in readiness to disembark the wounded destined for them, which took them three or four hours. The *matériel* remained on board all night, and was taken away the following morning (yesterday).

"As soon as the barge was cleaned, I had some alteration made in the arrangement of the ventilators, which allowed a too free passage of air. I also arranged a system of slinging fourteen stretchers to the rafters of the barrack, which largely increased our accommodation. We can now take 34 severely wounded in the barrack alone, and 30 not severe cases in the holds below, besides *personnel* and *matériel*, the latter almost to any amount.

"Last night there was a heavy fall of snow, which has completely blocked the (Semendria Belgrade) road for transport purposes, so our barge, and that of Baron Mundy, are the only means of transport left. The wounded cannot be conveyed on the decks of the steamers, as the weather is too cold.

"I am writing this on the barge, on my way back to Semendria. To-morrow I take up to Belgrade 60 wounded, then return to Dubrawitza, and take by two or three journeys, 200 wounded to Obrenowaz. In the meantime the two waggons and light carriage will work along, and in the neighbourhood of the level road between Semendria and Jagodina, accompanied by one or two surgeons, to take up and treat the poor stragglers, who, in the hurry and confusion of the late wholesale evacuation, have been left neglected and forgotten in small Cafanas and outlying villages.

"The convoy had a hard time of it in the Posharewaz evacuation; as at Lukova the horses had to be taken out and oxen harnessed to the waggons.

"Mr. Galton and Mr. Wattie accompany me to day. The former I have asked to accompany the road convoy, and the latter will remain as surgeon attached to the barge. I shall always be with one or the other, making Semendria my head-quarters.

"I ought to add that all the authorities here are extremely grateful for what the Society has done in transport, and especially for the evacuation on a large scale which we are now carrying out with the barge. I believe I am carrying out your wishes in looking upon the barrack barge as a floating hospital of the Society. In consequence, all food and wine is supplied by me out of the transport fund. The cost per head does not much exceed a franc. We can carry on this transport by river for another six weeks if necessary, unless the ice comes sooner than usual.

"The *personnel* and *matériel* remain the same as in my last report, with the addition that the two surgeons, Mr. Galton and Mr. Wattie have been attached to the transport service for the time.

"The Princess Chakovskaia expressed her warmest thanks to the Society for the transport of the wounded and *matériel* of her hospital to Belgrade."

"Transport Service.

"BELGRADE, November 18th, 1876.

"I beg to acknowledge the receipt of telegram received November 15th, relative to giving up the charge of the Transport Service on December 1st. I understand that the *matériel* and horses belonging to the Transport, including tents, will follow the same destination as the waggons.

"I arrived in Semendria on November 10th with the hospital barge, accompanied by Galton and Wattie. I at once made arrangements for the evacuation of wounded from Sirlaienatz, near Posharewatz by road, and from the transport of others from the Semendria ambulance by river.

"The following day, November 11th, we brought down 44 wounded from the Russian and Servian hospitals in our waggons and calèche. The previous evening six others had been placed in beds on board, direct from the waggons which had brought them down from the port, thus saving them as many changes as possible. Mr. Wattie went in the barge as surgeon, and in addition, I took in two other surgeons attached to the hospitals to which the wounded were destined, and the necessary assistants.

"At 1 p.m. we were taken in tow by an Austrian steamer, and arrived at Belgrade at 6 p.m. I provided a substantial dinner for all on board, which was cooked at Semendria and kept warm in the barrack kitchen constructed on the barge.

"On our arrival at Belgrade the snow was falling heavily—in consequence of which the severely wounded were kept on board all night, and only the less seriously wounded allowed to land. Dr. Laseron and some of our sisters came on board with supper for the wounded, prepared beforehand at our hospital.

"Early the following morning breakfast was sent down to the barge by Dr. Laseron, and the heavily wounded for Belgrade were taken off on stretchers. At 8 a.m. another steamer took the barge in tow up the river Save and arrived at Obrenovatz about mid-day, when the wounded were at once landed and taken to the hospital established there. The barge was towed back to Belgrade the following morning.

"In the meantime Galton and Ivanoff, at my request, took the ambulance waggons and calèche to Soilamatz, to evacuate the wounded from the place, where there was a good Russian hospital—but that of the Government was poor and overcrowded. Owing to the continued severity of the weather, the Government suddenly suspended all evacuations, which put an end to their work. Accordingly, Galton returned to Belgrade with the calèche, to continue his work at the hospital. At the request of the General Inspector of Hospitals, I sent Ivanoff with the waggons to Kraguievatz, where he should have arrived yesterday.

"As the weather is becoming milder, I understand that evacuation work is to recommence. The waggons and horses have somewhat suffered, owing to their severe work on the bad roads during the late trying weather, but all are in good working order."

"NISCH, December 23rd, 1876.

"The following is my Report from December 12th, when I left Belgrade, up to to-day :—

"After some days' delay, owing to the difficulty of obtaining passes, which I thought necessary, I left Belgrade on Dec. 12th. I took as assistant and interpreter Juan Ivanoff, who was with me in the transport work.

"I had with me three letters from Major Gonne, the British Demarcation Commissioner, addressed to Sir A. Kemball and Nedjib Pacha, the head of the Turkish Staff; also an official letter to Lieut.-Col. J. Popovitch, the Commandant of Deligrad. I had in addition received passes from the Minister of War and of the Interior. As there was some chance of difficulties arising on the frontier, I thought it a wise precaution to have these.

"I arrived at Deligrad Camp on December 16th, having travelled the worst part of the way with the same horses, which we had arranged to take with us into Turkey. On arriving at Deligrad I presented my papers to the Commandant, who immediately sent a *parlementaire* to the Turkish outposts to inform Hasiz Pacha, the Turkish Commandant of Alexinat, that we were waiting to cross the lines. I sent at the same time my letter of introduction to Nedjib Pacha and Sir A. Kemball.

"The following afternoon we left Deligrad Camp accompanied by an escort of two Servian cavalry soldiers, and arrived safely at the Turkish outposts before Alexinat. They received us very well, but kept us waiting for over two hours while they sent for the necessary authority from Hasiz Pacha to permit us to pass into the lines. We ultimately arrived at the Pacha's house at 9 p.m., having changed our Servian guard for a Turkish one. The Pacha received us well: I explained to him the object of my visit, and he referred me to Nedjib Pacha who was at Nisch. I was very sorry to hear that Sir A. Kemball had left the headquarters for Constantinople.

"The next day, December 19th, we drove to Nisch, after finding that there were no Servian wounded in Alexinat. The late rain had entirely destroyed the whole track across the Nisch swamps, so we had to find our way across the most dangerous country I ever travelled over. We luckily had a coachman who knew the way to a certain extent, but he drove us into a bog, from which we extricated the carriage with some difficulty, and not without breaking the harness. We were so delayed by this accident and other difficulties that night came on—a thick dark night—before half our journey was accomplished. There were no cottages to stop at, so we had no choice but to continue our way. About two hours after sunset the tracks led us to the banks of a river, across which there was a ford, but, owing to the late rains, this ford was difficult to pass. While a country cart, which

accompanied us, was trying to pass, our horses hearing the splashing, and being anxious to follow, rushed forward, and before the coachman could stop them fell with the calèche down a steep bank about 4 ft. high into the river. As the horses were nearly drowning, I went in after them almost up to my shoulders, but had great difficulty in keeping my legs owing to the strength of the current. Mr. Galton, one of the surgeons of the Society's Belgrade hospital, and who is travelling with me *en route* to Lady Strangford, came to our help, and finally the horses' heads were turned down stream, and they, with the calèche, arrived safely at the shallower part of the stream, and succeeded in landing.

"We arrived at Nisch at 10 p.m., and after an hour's wandering about in search of some inn which would receive us, we at last induced a Greek to open his door and let us sit round a fire for the night, and dry our wet clothes.

"During the following three days I have been making inquiries for Servian wounded. Nedjib Pacha, the head of the staff, assisted me in every way, but I cannot say the same of the under officials. As the question of wounded and prisoners is so mixed up here, owing to convalescent wounded being looked upon as prisoners, I asked for a list of the latter. Nedjib Pacha did his best, but I could not obtain the list, so this morning I went myself to the prison with Ivanoff, and took the list for myself. Thirty-one wounded have been in hospital; twenty-two have gone out as convalescent, and five remain. The roads are so bad that the English doctors do not advise the evacuation of these five. I found ninety prisoners, some of whom have been wounded, in the prison. I took all their names and particulars, which I am sending over to the Servian Minister of War, with the list of wounded, by consent of Nedjib Pacha. I am also authorized by him to state that no difficulty will be raised to a general exchange of all prisoners and wounded. The Servians, however, must send back to their lines some of the Turkish prisoners as an equivalent for those Servians whom the Turkish Government has already set at liberty.

"The prisoners were well fed, but had no money nor tobacco allowed them, which is to them a great hardship. They are too crowded in the rooms allotted to them, but do not seem on the whole in bad condition. There are seven or eight among them who deny ever having carried arms. There is one Captain of the 2nd class (militia).

"The Servian Government has never as yet obtained a list of these prisoners, and, in consequence, hundreds of families are in suspense, thinking that their missing relations may be among them. The publication of the list in Servia will therefore be a great boon in putting an end to this suspense.

"At Perot and Sofia there are some more Servian wounded and prisoners. I shall visit these, take their names, and endeavour to arrange for their protection and evacuation as at Nisch.

"As everything which is being done here will also be done on the Servian side, Nedjib Pacha entirely approves of what I am doing, and treats the whole question in the most liberal spirit. Mr. Leslie and the other English surgeons of the Society's Nisch hospital have been most kind, and have assisted me in every way in their power.

"I cannot form any positive opinion as to the fate of the numbers of Servian wounded who were left behind at Djunis during the last fight, until I have visited the other localities where they are stated to be.

"The Servian wounded, when once in hospital, are treated in precisely the same way as Turkish wounded. When, however, convalescent or cured, they are looked upon as prisoners of war.

"The means of transporting wounded in the Turkish army are worse even than those in the Servian. Every medical authority with whom I have conversed has deplored the absence of any proper system of transport. The loss of life owing to this cause alone is estimated at between 1,000 and 1,500 by some.

"V. BARRINGTON KENNETT.

"To Col. LOYD-LINDSAY, V.C., M.P."

APPENDIX E.

REPORTS ON THE CONDITION OF TURKISH HOSPITALS, BY ENGLISH SURGEONS NOT IN THE SERVICE OF THE NATIONAL AID SOCIETY.

" SALONICA, *November 4th*, 1876.

"The hospital now used for the reception of soldiers, both sick and wounded, is situated in close proximity to the sea, and the site may be described as at once convenient and healthy; though now in possession of the military authorities, it was constructed for the accommodation of the civil population.

"The general plan of the hospital, which is of two storeys, renders due ventilation of the wards difficult, or almost impossible; and, consequently, any over-crowding must be more or less dangerous.

"The great influx of patients from the hospitals of Sienitza, Zeni Bazar, and Metrovitza has caused a serious over-crowding. In all probability the number of patients will not be less, but rather on the contrary more, because, as the roads are sometimes difficult in the winter, every effort is made to send patients whilst the roads are open. According to the researches of those most eminent in sanitary science, American as well as European, 2,000 cubic feet of space are required for each patient. During the American war Surgeon-General Hammond ventured to use hospitals with only 1,200 feet. In this hospital, however, the over-crowding is so great that not even 300 feet can be given to each patient. During the few weeks of occupation the results of treatment have been happy, the mortality has been even under 3 per cent.; but it would be unwise to be lulled into a false security through this temporary good fortune, for the laws of nature cannot be violated with impunity, and all experience proves that sooner or later severe retribution ensues.

"Another defect in the construction of the hospital hinders the isolation of patients labouring under infectious diseases; and even there can be no effectual separation of medical from surgical cases.

"All those medicines required by the present staff of the hospital are found in the pharmacy, and any requisition for further supplies is immediately attended to after presentation in Stamboul. An ample supply of bedsteads, beds, bedding, and coverlets are in readiness for use; also all the needful surgical instruments are at the disposal of the surgeons of the hospital. The hospital can well bear comparison with those of Western Europe, so far as the supply of hospital appliances, &c., is concerned.

"Medical comforts are extensively used in many hospitals, and are certainly almost essential for the treatment of the sick and wounded of the so-called Christian armies; but the superior morality of the Turkish soldier, his simple diet, and his abstinence from those vices so prevalent amongst the soldiers of Northern and Western Europe, obviate the necessity for the employment of those curative means, in that the Turkish soldier appears to have a peculiar power to resist those diseases so incidental in most large armies.

"The one great need of the medical and surgical officers is more space—first, to lessen the present over-crowding; secondly, to permit that separation of cases so essential to arrest the spreading of infectious diseases; and thirdly, to provide space for those numerous patients who are awaiting transport from Sienitza and Zeni Bazar, where the bleak cold is so injurious, to the more temperate climate of Salonica.

"Painful experience has often shown that the utilization of other buildings for hospital uses has been ever attended with disaster, and that the use of large tents as cheaply-constructed wooden huts is the best provision for the wounded.

"A few cases of 'hospital gangrene' have already appeared. Fortunately, its progress has been checked, but as the effects of over-crowding are ever more severe in winter than in summer, probably this terrible scourge of military hospitals will reappear in a more intense degree. Typhus fever, also, during the winter is often found in the wards of hospitals where there is over-crowding, consequently there is an imperious necessity to provide some means of isolation, so that when either or both of these plagues should appear, they may be at once resolutely stamped out.

"The expense of a temporary hospital need not exceed £5 per bed, and such an expenditure may be considered as a safe investment through the consequent diminution of the duration of disease and the prevention of an increased mortality.

"Every endeavour is made, by a rigid attention to cleanliness, the use of disinfectants, and also by an active and zealous supervision of the hospital attendants, to promote the welfare of the inmates; moreover, a liberal diet, together with a free use of tobacco, is accorded to the patients, but no regulations, however wise they may be, can obviate the necessity of that cubic space, which alone can supply the pure air essential for the respiration of the sick, especially as the majority of the patients suffer from diseases, the treatment of

which claims the best hygienic conditions, without which the administrative drugs and the most carefully-executed operations are powerless for good.

"A large caserne near the hospital has been used to shelter those patients for whom space cannot be found in the general hospital, but its situation near a large cemetery renders it somewhat insalubrious, and also many of the conveniences essential for the treatment of diseases are absent. Even here there is also over-crowding, and previous experience has proved its unfitness for the reception of wounded patients.

"T. E. RUTTLEDGE.

"RICHD. L. BUTLER,

Late Assist.-Surgeon H.M. 44th Regt."

"METROWITCHA,

"September 5, 1876.

"Dear Mr. Blount,—We have, as you know, an intrenched camp here with six or seven regiments. New regiments are ever arriving, and as quickly sent to the front. There is a hospital in this place with about 100 beds, but we have only *two* wounded, one of whom is a Servian, and I am pleased to find that the poor fellow is treated with every consideration, and that his sad lot is rendered as easy as possible.

"It appears that Metrovitza is too far from the seat of operations; that many wounded cannot be transported for so long a distance. The hospital, though very defective in construction, is well supplied with medical needs; there are four Turkish doctors here, and two others left for Salonica the day after my arrival. Consequently there is a superfluity of medical men, and as yet I have had nothing to do, with the exception to treat one of the Pachas, in consultation with a Turkish doctor. I hope the authorities will send me nearer the front, as it is unpleasant to be here without occupation, knowing at the same time that there must be wounded in the front requiring surgical help. I have been able to notice a good trait in the character of the Turks, both civil and military: that is, a feeling of humanity towards man and beast. The sick are treated with a fair amount of skill and great attention, and the complaints of the soldiers are listened to with attentive care, and above all, the numerous pack horses, probably considerably over 1000, are treated with due consideration; as yet I have not seen one single instance of cruelty.

"We have no Bashi-Bazouks here, the discipline of the camp is good, the troops here are all of the reserves; I have not observed any instance of intoxication amongst the soldiers; altogether the place is much more quiet than an English garrison town.

"The hospital, which was formerly a Khan, is very defective, but I am told is only to be used as a halting place for the sick, and when they are well enough they will be sent to Salonica by rail.

"Believe me, faithfully yours,

"T. E. RUTTLEDGE."

"METROVITZA,

"September 12th, 1876.

"Dear Mr. Blount,—The hospital here is well supplied with all medical stores and bandages. The day before yesterday about 40 of the slighter and convalescent cases departed for Salonica. The sick here make very fair progress; we have lost one patient from lockjaw. From what I have seen, I am inclined to believe lockjaw is more prevalent here than in Western Europe. As I passed through Uskebhen, I was called to see a poor man in that city, afflicted with the same disease.

"The Turkish army seems to be well supplied with medical officers, there are many here now, besides several apothecaries who dispense the medicines, for this hospital alone there are now three apothecaries. The troops in camp here are all, I am told, '*reserve regiments*;' but, strange to say, there is a complete absence of those disgraceful rows which so frequently are found in the neighbourhood of Aldershot. Another fact that has struck me, is the total absence of those prostitutes who generally infest a large camp of troops.

"Many soldiers arrive at the hospital daily, with slight complaints, which are at once attended to. The business of the town pursues its usual course, and one can walk, not only in the streets, but in the neighbourhood several miles around without any inconvenience.

"It appears to me that, in all probability, the hospital needs must be greater in the front than here, in that Metrovitza being situated on the railway, the authorities are in immediate intercourse with Constantinople, but in the interior, I fear that there will be more deficiency.

"I have been much surprised to find the medical arrangements so complete. The apothecaries and doctors all speak French, and the hospital work is conducted in the French language; the surgical assistants, however, do not speak French. We have several of them here, and one in this hospital served in the Crimea, and wears the British medal.

"I remain, faithfully yours,

"T. E. RUTTLEDGE."

A REPORT ON THE MILITARY (TURKISH) HOSPITAL AT SALONICA.

"H.M.S. 'DEVASTATION,' SALONICA,

"26th October, 1876.

"Sir,—I beg to bring under your notice, for the information of Her Majesty's Consul who has expressed a wish to have a professional opinion on the present state of the Turkish military-hospital at this place, the result of my observations on a visit to the hospital for this purpose this afternoon. The hospital is a stone building, almost new, and entirely detached from other houses, with a large quadrangular square in the rear, and a small open space in front. It is two storeys in height, is situated at the east end of the bay, and close to the sea, and apparently in a healthy locality. On the ground-floor there are two long wards, one on each side, and containing about 30 beds—all filled with patients. Extending backwards were numerous baths and waterclosets, sufficient for the use of all the patients. The kitchen was at the opposite end of the square. The dispensary was in front, on the ground-floor, but appeared very deficient in the way of medicines and surgical appliances. On the upper storey the wards on both sides, and also a long ward running backwards, were nearly filled. The patients appeared contented, resigned, and in most cases even cheerful, and showing their wounds with a smile. A large number were convalescent, and about to be discharged. There being no covered space or protection from the inclement weather, which soon commences, I was agreeably surprised to find such a degree of cleanliness throughout every part of the hospital, and the atmosphere in the wards was free of the slightest offensive odour. The bedding consisted of a double mattress (one of straw, and one of cotton), with calico sheets, and on the top a thick cotton quilt. Each bed had, also, a tin spitting-pot, and a small table attached, and, at the head, a record of the case, with the medicine, diet, &c., prescribed. The beds were too close together, almost touching each other. The central space was also too narrow, two persons being scarcely able to walk abreast. The windows were large and abundant, but there appeared a strong desire to keep them closed. The hospital contained 175 patients, of whom 88 were wounded; the others consisted chiefly of various types of fever, dysentery, rheumatism, and syphilis. A few cases of gangrene occurred, but to a small extent as yet. The patients seem to receive proper nourishment, and each is allowed five drachms of tobacco, with cigarette paper, daily. The nurses appear very attentive. The medical men of the place, both native and foreign, are very kind in giving both advice and attendance gratuitously, as do also the medical officers of the foreign men-of-war in the harbour, and which is graciously received. Notwithstanding the great care and attention which is evidently shown to the patients, there is unquestionably a deficiency in many of those medicines, medical comforts, and surgical appliances which not only contribute to the comfort and well-being of the patients, but, in many instances, are absolutely necessary for their ultimate recovery. Lint, oiled silk, calico, sponges, and disinfectants should be procured as soon as possible, and a good supply of medical comforts. I would strongly recommend that a detached ward should be erected temporarily for cases of gangrene, or other contagious diseases, and which could be done at a small expense in the square at the rear of the hospital.

"I have the honour to be, Sir,

"Your obedient servant,

"ARTHUR McKENNA, M.D.,

"Staff Surgeon.

"Captain F. W. Richards, R.N., H.M.S. 'Devastation.'"

APPENDIX F.

THANKS OF THE OTTOMAN GOVERNMENT, AND THE ARMY OF NISCH,
TO THE ENGLISH "RED CROSS" SOCIETY.

" FOREIGN OFFICE, 9th December, 1876.

"SIR,

"With reference to your letter of the 26th of August last, I am directed by the Earl of Derby to transmit to you herewith a copy of a note from the Turkish Minister for Foreign Affairs to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople, requesting that the thanks of the Ottoman Government may be expressed to the Society for Aid to the Sick and Wounded in War for the humane work undertaken by its officers, and stating that the Turkish Minister of War wishes to be provided with some more specimens of the badges and documents supplied to them.

"I am, Sir,

"Your most obedient, humble servant,

"T. V. LISTER.

"To THE SECRETARY,

"National Society for Aid to the Sick and Wounded in War,

"3, Craven Street, W.C."

"S. PORTE, Novembre 22, 1876.

"M. L'AMBASSADEUR,

"J'ai reçu et communiqué au Ministère de la Guerre la note de V. E. du 13 Septembre, pour me transmettre une lettre de la Société vouée à l'assistance des malades et blessés des armées en campagne, contenant la liste ainsi que le modèle du signe distinctif et des certificats des personnes envoyées par cette société sur le théâtre de la guerre.

"Les pièces ont été transmises par les soins du susdit département au commandant du corps d'armée de Nisch qui a reçu en même temps les instructions nécessaires pour protéger et assister les membres de la dite société dans l'accomplissement de leur mission philanthropique. Toutefois comme il est à presumer que ces agents le dirigeront sur divers points du théâtre de la guerre, S. E. Rédif Pacha demande un certain nombre des spécimens précités pour l'information des autres commandants militaires.

"En terminant je prie V. E. de vouloir bien faire parvenir au Président de la Société susmentionnée l'expression de nos plus vifs remerciements pour cette œuvre humanitaire.

"S.E. SIR H. ELLIOT, G.C.B."

The Turkish army engaged in the Servian campaign has addressed a letter of thanks to the English branch of the Red Cross Society for its recent humane relief to the sick and wounded of the Turkish army during the war. The letter is addressed to Colonel Loyd-Lindsay, V.C., M.P., Chairman of the British National Society of the Red Cross, and is signed by the two well-known representative names of Ali Saïb Pacha, field-marshal commanding the Army Corps of Nisch, and General Nedjib Pacha, chief of the staff. The address says:—

"There is an immutable feeling common to all, no matter who may be the individual or what the nation—the feeling of gratitude for a benefit received. It is thus that the Army Corps of Nisch, on its setting into its winter quarters during the armistice, after its campaign in Servia, naturally remembers the immense services rendered to its sick and wounded by the medical men whom you were good enough to bring in person to the seat of war. This remembrance makes it our imperative desire to express to you all our feelings of warm gratitude for the zeal, the intelligence, and the humane care which were constantly bestowed upon our sick and wounded, and for the important material aid which, through your instrumentality, came to soften the lot of our soldiers. Be good enough, Colonel Lindsay, with the kindness which has animated all your conduct, to accept these feelings of gratitude, expressed in a few brief words, but coming from the bottom of our hearts, and to be the interpreter of our undying sentiments of gratitude towards the British National Red Cross Society, of which you are so worthy a member, and especially towards Dr. Armand Leslie, head of the ambulance-staff, Drs. Bernard Pitts and Charles Haydon White, and to the hospital dresser Rowland Barker, who shared with us all the fatigues of a hard and painful campaign; as also to Dr. Newby, and to the hospital dressers Messrs. Maile and Gamble, who were at work at the Central Hospital at Nisch, and who displayed invariably the greatest intelligence on behalf of our sick and wounded. Be good enough, Colonel Lindsay, to accept, in the name of every man of our Army Corps, this expression of our high consideration and grateful feelings."

"FOREIGN OFFICE,

"January 3rd, 1877.

"SIR,

"I am directed by the Earl of Derby to transmit to you, for any observations you may have to make thereon, copy of a note addressed by the Turkish Minister for Foreign Affairs to the President of the Swiss Confederation, in which His Excellency states that the Turkish Government desire, for reasons given therein, to substitute a 'Red Crescent' for the Red Cross now used as the distinctive badge in the Turkish ambulances under the Geneva Convention of 1864.

"I am also to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Minister at Berne has been instructed to inform the Swiss Government that Her Majesty's Government see no objection to the Turkish proposal.

"Her Majesty's Government have also been informed that the French Government are disposed to agree to this alteration in the distinctive badge.

"The Turkish proposal has been referred to the War Office and Admiralty, and the latter have suggested that as the Crescent is worn by Turkish officers on all uniforms, in the same manner as the crown is worn by Her Majesty's officers, the Crescent would not appear to be sufficiently distinctive for the purpose.

"Lord Derby would, therefore, be glad to be informed if you think there is sufficient force in the objection raised by the Admiralty to make it a subject of communication to the Swiss Government, or whether the Red Crescent, employed in exactly the same manner as the Red Cross is now employed, will be a badge sufficiently distinctive to secure the object of the Geneva Convention.

"I am, Sir,

"Your most obedient, humble servant,

"T. V. LISTER.

"To COL. LOYD-LINDSAY, V.C., &c."

"NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR AID TO THE

"SICK AND WOUNDED IN WAR.

"3, CRAVEN STREET, STRAND, W.C.,

"January 7th, 1877.

"SIR,

"I have the honour to acknowledge your letter of the 3rd of January, together with a copy of a note addressed by the Turkish Minister for Foreign Affairs to the President of the Swiss Confederation, in which His Excellency states that the Turkish Government desires, for reasons given therein, to substitute a Red Crescent for the Red Cross now used as the distinctive badge in the Turkish ambulance under the Geneva Convention.

"I think the proposal of the Turkish Government is a reasonable one, and I do not see how inconvenience can arise from the substitution of the Red Crescent for the Red Cross as the Geneva Badge for ambulances and troops of the Ottoman Empire.

"With regard to the objection that the Crescent would not appear sufficiently distinctive for the purpose, I would observe that the colours of the flag, viz., white with a red emblem upon it, is the thing which protects the ambulances, and provided the colours are maintained it matters not whether the badge be a crescent or a cross.

"I am, Sir,

"Your most obedient, humble servant,

"R. LOYD-LINDSAY.

"To T. V. LISTER, ESQ., Foreign Office."



